FBIS DAILY REPORT

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DEFENSE MINISTER DIES OF RESPIRATORY ILLNESS

PY251933 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1925 GMT 25 May 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 25 May (TELAM) -- Shortly after 1600, the official Defense Ministry spokesman issued a brief communique disclosing that Minister Raul Borras passed away at 1550 today. The communique states: Defense Minister Raul Borras passed away at 1550. More information in this regard will be disclosed later.

Leaves 'Irreparable Void' in UCR

PY262136 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 26 May 85 p 1

[Excerpts] (NA-DYN) -- Defence Minister Raul Borras, key architect of the campaign strategy which led the Radical Party to victory in 1983 and "right arm" of President Raul Alfonsin, died yesterday afternoon of "secondary respiratory problems related to a prolonged lung illness." He was 52 years old.

Ministry press spokesman Jose Maria Coria made the official announcement at 5:20 pm yesterday, an hour and a half after Borras' death put an end to a five-month illness, in and out of the hospital. After having a "pulmonary abscess" removed last December -- which doctors said was due to prolonged cortisone treatment for arthritis -- Borras never fully resumed office. Borras underwent a second operation on May 17, which consisted in soldering the seventh to the eleventh vertebrae to limit his movement and thus relieve him of pains in the lumbar region.

Borras never left the president's side, accepting the difficult task of heading the Defence Ministry during a period of trials against former commanders for human rights abuses and budget cutbacks. He weathered the removal of Army Commander-in-Chief Jorge Arguindegui, the naming, for the first time, of an Air Force man as Armed Forces joint commander-in-chief and the resignations en masse of Armed Forces Supreme Council members.

Defence Undersecretary Horacio Juanarena is a strong candidate to continue in Borras' ministerial shoes, but he leaves "an irreparable void" within the Radical Party. The names of National Procurator Juan Octavio Gauna, National Defence College head Ruben Blanco and Interior Minister Antonio Troccoli have also been mentioned.

The government has officially declared today and tomorrow as national mourning for the late defence minister. Borras' body was held in wake as of 7:30 pm last night before being taken to the Salon de los Pasos Perdidos in Congress around 10 am this morning. He will be buried with "the corresponding military honours" at the Recoleta Cemetery today at 1:30 pm.

Carranza Named Defense Minister

PY271501 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1454 GMT 27 May 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 27 May (TELAM) -- Presidential spokesman Jose Ignacio Lopez has officially reported that Minister of Public Works and Services Roque Carranza has been named the new minister of defense and will be sworn in 29 May. Lopez pointed out to reporters at Government House that Carranza will also continue as acting minister of public works and services.

U.S. TO GRANT $500-MILLION BRIDGE LOAN

PY262135 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 26 May 85 p 17

[Text] (NA) -- Argentina may obtain a 400-million-dollar bridge loan from the United States Treasury, reliable sources in Buenos Aires said yesterday. This loan would enable Argentina to pay part of the interest on the foreign debt before June 10. At the same time, an Argentine financial mission, headed by its main debt negotiator Mario Brodershon, is endeavouring to reach a technical agreement with the International Monetary Fund in accordance with precise instructions given by President Raul Alfonsin. Treasury officials yesterday said this technical agreement was a necessary requisite prior to obtaining the treasury bridge loan. Argentina is obliged to pay the back interest prior to June 10 as otherwise it runs the risk of being declared a substandard nation. Sources report that the technical agreement would be followed by a 30-percent devaluation of the Argentine peso over a 90-day period.

NAVY OPPOSES PARTICIPATING IN 'UNITAS' EXERCISES

PY280245 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0134 GMT 28 May 85

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 27 May (NA) -- It was learned tonight from reliable sources that the Argentine Navy has stated its opposition to participating in the annual "Unitas" exercises with the U.S. Navy, but that the final decision will be made by the government. Argentina, which participated in the "Unitas" exercises until 1981, discontinued its participation in these exercises due to the U.S. Navy's collaboration with the British Navy during the Malvinas war.

According to these sources, the Argentine Navy believes that "there is too little time left" before the start of the exercises and that it would not be possible to complete the required training in order to have a fairly reasonable participation. They expressed their belief that the budget situation makes it advisable not to participate in these exercises.

They also noted that relations between the Argentine and U.S. Navies began to improve during the meeting of Latin American and U.S. Navy commanders held recently in Washington. This meeting was attended by Argentine Navy Chief of Staff Vice Admiral Ramon Arosa. Yet this improvement does not seem to be enough to make the Argentine Navy officers change their minds about participating in the upcoming "Unitas" exercises.

ALFONSIN DISCUSSES DEBT, CRISIS, OTHER TOPICS

PY260014 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0015 GMT 25 May 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 24 May (TELAM) -- President Raul Alfonsin today expressed his willingness to pay the necessary political price, adding that he will not do anything that will conspire against the growth of the economy or against the possibilities of the people. He also said: What all of us must understand is that we must all make an equal effort, which must largely be carried out by the wealthier sectors, not only to pay the foreign debt, but also to overcome our crisis.

Alfonsin made these statements tonight at Government House just before walking to the Cabildo building to participate in one of the traditional ceremonies commemorating the May week. When the reporters questioned him on the Rivadavia Street plaza, he discussed Argentina's position regarding the foreign debt as related to some remarks that were heard during the Plaza de Mayo rally.

I believe, Alfonsin said, that sometimes remarks do help, but other times they do not, no matter how the remarks are made. I believe that it is our task to understand that we must honor our debts. Of course, we have permanently maintained this, but we are not going to do anything that will conspire against the growth of our economy or against the possibilities of our own people. He also emphasized: What all of us must understand is that we must all make an effort, not only to pay the foreign debt, but also to build the Argentina that we know we can build, and here we have two possibilities.

He indicated that these possibilities are: We all start blaming each other and take no action, or we take action knowing that an effort has to be made, an equal effort, because you must know about the tax measures we have sent to Congress. Thus, for the first time, in my opinion, we are going to have an equitable tax system. Alfonsin indicated that the greater effort will have to be made by the wealthier sectors, adding that this is a battle and there are people who must fight and win it, people who must end a period of crises and decadence. He added that we are going to ensure that those who have less will suffer less, but anyway it will be a major effort that will have to be shared by everyone.

Referring to the 23 May rally at Plaza de Mayo organized by the General Labor Confederation [CGT], Alfonsin said: I liked the way the rally was carried out because it was a democratic rally. He also stated that it was a rally against the crisis and of course, provided an opportunity to criticize the government. He said: I think this is good and I am willing to pay all the necessary political costs, which does not mean to say that there will be a conspiracy against the desire of the Argentine people and this effort that the people are willing to make.

He stated: I do not know whether or not I have made this clear. I am willing to pay the political price, no matter what is said about the government, but the country must not come to a standstill and the Argentine people must not be discouraged. He stated that we will try to demonstrate that the foreign debt, the problem of the developing countries in general, the Latin American problem -- not only the burden of the foreign debt but also discrimination in foreign trade and all that entails in being left out -- poverty, and the stagnation which we are suffering merit another type of treatment.

He then explained that there is another problem: It is a problem where we feel the support of the people as a whole, including those who were protesting yesterday at Plaza de Mayo, because they also gave an example that I believe is a very, very important one, that of seeking different positions, but within democracy. He also stated that there is little concern regarding other matters, but what I want understood is the fact that we are going to have to make an effort, that it will have to be a great effort, a serious effort, but an effort that will bring hope. Alfonsin stated that it will not be an empty effort. Within the very near future, within the historical time in which we have to speak, Argentina will again become the country that will give us the possibility of giving our children and grandchildren the future they deserve.

Comments on CGT Rally

PY241758 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1351 GMT 24 May 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 24 May (TELAM) -- President Raul Alfonsin today said that we have by no means ended the dialogue with the labor leaders. We will probably have to talk with the General Confederation of Labor [CGT] people, and I suppose Saul Ubaldini will be among them, he added.

Alfonsin made these comments in reply to a question about the possibility that he may meet Ubaldini after the 23 May rally held in Plaza de Mayo. The president talked to reporters upon leaving Government House for the Military School, were he was to attend a ceremony. He said he did not know whether the meeting with the labor leaders will be held before the Argentine delegation leaves for the ILO meeting in Geneva.

Concerning the CGT rally, he said he was very satisfied, because everything was handled democratically. This is important he pointed out.

As for the discovery of explosives in the town of Mercedes in Buenos Aires Province, he said he believes it is the tip of an iceberg. We hope this will lead to important findings, he added. The president declined to comment on this issue because the investigations are still under way.

MASS CGT RALLY MARKS END OF DAY OF MOBILIZATION

PY240008 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2126 GMT 23 May 85

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 23 May (NA) -- General Confederation of Labor [CGT] Secretary Saul Ubaldini today told the approximately 120,000 people assembled at Plaza de Mayo that "there will be no playing with the people," stating that "there will be no coup, not because the government does not want it but because we are the only ones who will stop it," and reaffirmed that "either they manage to change the socioeconomic policy or they can go." The markedly antigovernment mass rally, which took place this afternoon in front of Government House and in which two other CGT secretaries, Jorge Triaca and Ramon Baldassini, did not participate, was the crowning point of the day of national protest and strike which was complied with, to considerable extent, throughout the country.

Osvaldo Borda, the fourth CGT secretary, was the only other speaker besides Ubaldini. He accused the government of implementing a "meaningless" social and economic policy and indicated that the CGT must participate "in the evaluation of the country's major problems."

The rally, at which the Intransigent Party, the Communist Party, the Movement Toward Socialism, various factions of the Socialist Party, the Workers Party, and a few human rights organizations were responsible for a large portion of the crowd, developed without serious incident and marked the end of the CGT plan of struggle.

In his fiery speech, Ubaldini called for labor-management negotiations of salaries and for the return of social welfare institutions to the labor unions which originally controlled them. He emphasized: "We want to defend national production but capital must be at the service of the people."

The CGT special commission which organized the rally at Plaza de Mayo had estimated shortly before the main ceremony started that 250,000 persons had answered the CGT call. However, police sources indicated that the traditional square was 80 percent full plus there were 1 and 1/2 blocks of demonstrators along the Mayo Diagonal Norte and Diagonal Sur Avenues.

Osvaldo Borda expressed thanks "for the participation of youth groups and political parties of various leanings," and pointed out that despite our differences "we agree on one thing: We will not allow Argentine dependency to take hold."

At approximately this point, one of the doors to a balcony of Government House opened and a person, probably Public Information Secretary Juan Radonjik, appeared briefly.

After a pause during which antigovernment slogans were shouted, Borda went on to say that "luckily our country is endowed with an ideologically meaningful labor movement." He added: "This allows us to tell the government: We want to sit down and discuss the causes of these negative effects. We want to discuss this because we want to participate in the making of decisions important for the nation."

The CGT day of protest and mobilization was complied with to varying degrees throughout the country, the provinces of Entre Rios and Rio Negro which have Radical Civil Union administrations being the least affected ones. However, in Tucuman, Cordoba, and Catamarca the stoppage was practically general and lasted 24 hours. Tucuman and Catamarca are ruled by Peronist government while in Cordoba the administration is Radical. In the Federal Capital, urban bus lines, railroads and subway services were practically normal, although in the case of the latter service the sector which serves the area where the rally was taking place did not operate during the gathering. Meanwhile, Argentine Airlines rendered almost normal services and had to cancel only four of its domestic flights during the day.

Labor Ministry on Absenteeism

PY240226 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 23 May 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 23 May (TELAM) -- The Labor and Social Security Ministry tonight reported that with respect to today's scheduled stoppage the overall average absenteeism throughout the country did not reach 50 percent, and in the Provinces of Rio Negro, Mendoza and Misiones, absenteeism did not surpass 15 percent. The rally at Plaza de Mayo, which had a marked political and party tone and was carried out without any disturbances, did not come up with any concrete proposals for resolving the serious economic crisis.

Both the work stoppage and the public rally were an exercise of civic rights that are contained in the Constitution and which can only be guaranteed by a democratic government.

Politicians View Rally

PY241800 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 24 May 85 p 11

[Text] (NA) -- Leaders from across the political spectrum, taking part or viewing yesterday's rally in Plaza de Mayo, expressed their opinions over the day's significance, while Interior Minister Antonio Troccoli, looking out from the Government House terrace, said "there's a lot of tension here; let's wait until things calm down a little" before talking about future relations between labour and government.

Committee of the 25 leader Roberto Digon, heading the column of marching tobacco workers, said government and workers were not enemies to one another. "The enemy is, was, and will be imperialism and the oligarchy who served their interests."

Popular Socialist Party President Guillermo Estevez Boero said his party joined the rally because current economic policies must be changed urgently. "Workers and small and medium-sized business firms and farms must be given a boost to really get the country moving and strengthen the democracy we all defend," he said, adding the "very legality of the foreign debt should be re-considered."

For his part, Permanent Assembly for Human Rights (APDH) chairman and Socialist Party President Simon Lazara said "we are all united in defence of democracy and surely the government will take into account this demand that it needs an economic policy which satisfies the needs of the entire population. The defence of human rights," he said, "includes defending the right to housing, a job and a dignified wage, in addition to defending political rights."

Communist Party leader Athos Fava said the mobilization "is good for the country and will make the government stop and think. This rally is really to show that we Argentines should all be united," he said. "We must put an end to the Peronist-Radical rivalry, because the true enemy is the International Monetary Fund."

In evaluating the day's strike and rally, Justicialist Party First Vice President Oraldo Britos said the fiery anti-government speech given by CGT Secretary-General Saul Ubaldini was "very good, full of marrow, in the natural style of this leader of the workers' movement. Let's hope," Britos added, "that the government knows how to come up with an adequate answer to this appeal from workers."

BOMB BLAST DAMAGES TWO UNION HEADQUARTERS

PY241420 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1013 GMT 24 May 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 24 May (DYN) -- A medium-strength bomb went off early this morning at the Argentine Brewery Workers Federation headquarters in the Basto neighborhood, causing some damage and injuring one person.

The bomb went off at 0030 in front of the entrance gate to the federation headquarters at 4078 Humahuaca Street, damaging the building's facade and stonework, breaking windows, and causing other damage to nearby houses. Dario Miguens, 68, was injured in the foot, probably by a piece of broken glass. Also, three cars parked in front of the building were damaged.

It should be mentioned that the top General Confederation of Workers [CGT] leaders have met on several occasions at the Brewery Workers Federation headquarters, and that CGT Secretary Saul Ubaldini is a member of the brewers organization.

SMATA Headquarters Attacked

PY221425 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1040 GMT 22 May 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 22 May (NA) -- An explosive device exploded at dawn today in front of the Trade Union of Mechanics and Related Automotive Transportation Workers (SMATA) headquarters in the San Martin neighborhood, northeast of the greater Buenos Aires. Although the building structure was damaged, no casualties were reported.

The explosion occurred at 0300 and destroyed the building masonry and entrance door. Fortunately the building was empty at the time.

Immediately after the explosion, personnel of the San Martin Police Station No 1 appeared at the site, where they carried out an extensive inspection in case the unidentified authors of the attack had planted another explosive device. No more devices were found. However, a police guard was left at SMATA headquarters.

This attack is being investigated by Judge Horacio Palazuelo.

DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH CUBA, JAMAICA APPROVED

PY271809 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 27 May 85

[Text] Information Minister Percy Camacho Flores has reported that the government has approved, through a decree, the establishment of diplomatic relations at the ambassadorial level with Cuba and Jamaica.

The information minister justified this decision because of Bolivia's need to have diplomatic representatives in geographical areas where there are countries with which it is necessary to hold political, economic, and cultural relations in accordance with national interests. The charges d'affaires will be in charge of the embassies until ambassadors are appointed.

In answer to questions from journalists, Minister Camacho said that the establishment of relations with Cuba, and Jamaica at the ambassadorial level is an unobjectionable act of sovereignty that should not surprise anyone because it is inspired by the need to strengthen relations with all countries, especially in the Third World.

MIR'S ARANIBAR QUIROGA DEPARTS FOR HAVANA

PY240331 Paris AFP in Spanish 2340 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] La Paz, 23 May (AFP) -- Antonio Aranibar Quiroga, a possible presidential candidate of one of the three factions of the Movement of the Revolutionary Left (MIR), today traveled to Havana at the invitation of Cuban President Fidel Castro. This was reported today by this political leader's spokesmen.

It has also been reported that Aranibar Quiroga on his return will try and unite the Bolivian left in order to forge a political front to face the strong conservative sectors headed by Victor Paz Estenssoro, of the Nationalist Revolutionary Movement (MNR), and retired General Hugo Banzer Suarez, of the Nationalist Democratic Action Party.

The report also says that Aranibar Quiroga will try and reconstruct the Popular and Democratic Unity (UDP). Current President Hernan Siles Zuazo won the 1978, 1979, and 1980 elections at the head of this front.

The other two MIR factions are headed by former Vice President Jaime Paz Zamora and by labor leader Walter Delgadillo.

SARNEY MEETS VISITING NICARAGUAN MINISTER

PY240309 Porto Alegre Radio Guaiba in Portuguese 0200 GMT 24 May 85

[Text] Today President Jose Sarney reasserted Brazil's support for Nicaragua and noted that he is willing to seek ways that will lead to bilateral economic cooperation programs. He did this during a meeting he held today with Rodrigo Reyes, Nicaraguan minister secretary of government, who extended Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega's gratitude for the support that Brazil has expressed for Nicaragua in view of the economic blockade imposed on Nicaragua by the United States.

Reyes reasserted that the only way to achieve an agreement that will lead to a lasting peace in the region is to continue supporting the Contadora Group.

SARNEY LAUNCHES DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM FOR NORTHEAST

PY242334 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 24 May 85

[Excerpts] This is a time for work. I did not come here to give you promises but to work, President Jose Sarney said in Recife today, upon launching a program for the recovery of the areas that were damaged by the great northeastern floods. During the meeting of the Superintendency for Development of the Northeast (Sudene) executive board, President Sarney made statements stressing the importance of the development of the northeast for our country.

[Begin Sarney recording -- in progress] Nature is not the only one responsible for our social injustices nor did it create the economic distortions. [applause] This situation is the result of options Brazil should not have adopted. We will not make the same mistakes.

The new Republic is not only a wish; it has already demonstrated that it means change. We have restored direct elections, voting rights to the illiterate, elections in capital cities -- all the different groups are now represented -- we doubled the minimum salary, and our government's principal concern is the social problem.

We will comply with our commitments, and in 1986 we will hold a national constituent assembly. [end recording]

The recovery program for the northeast foresees spending 3 trillion cruzerios within the next 18 months. Its purpose is to aid the people that are homeless because of the floods, to restore the economic and social infrastructure, and to carry out flood prevention work. An interministerial commission will follow and supervise the implementation of this program.

This was the first meeting held by the Sudene since the government was installed. Apart from the president, 11 ministers, (?2) northeastern governors, and several businessmen participated in the meeting. Jose Reynaldo Tavares was named as the new Sudene superintendent during this meeting.

CUADRA DISCUSSES END OF STATE OF SIEGE

PY240303 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 23 May 85

[Excerpt] Minister Secretary General of Government Francisco Javier Cuadra today announced that the state of siege could end before 4 August if the present circumstances are maintained. He indicated that the government reaffirms its willingness to end the state of siege as the current 90-day extension runs out.

Cuadra made this statement during a visit he paid to Concepcion. He explained that this possibility is based on the daily evaluations which have been conducted lately. He said that the end of the state of siege would also imply the end of measures which have to do with new media. He also emphasized that all decisions pertaining to the powers of Chile's political authorities are made in Santiago.

This was Cuadra's answer to remarks that lawyer Ricardo Claro made in Washington to the effect that the state of siege will be lifted in 2 weeks. Cuadra said that there are no deadlines and reiterated that the possibility of lifting the state of siege earlier has been tied to prevailing circumstances, adding that this could come to pass if the present circumstances are maintained. Cuadra said that in his opinion lawyer Ricardo Claro has no basis for his assertions. He indicated that the state of siege will end before 4 August, which is the final day of the current 90-day extension of the state of siege. Circumstances will determine whether it will happen in 1 day, 1 week, or 1 month, Cuadra added. The important thing, he said, is that there is a firm will to lift the state of siege provided the circumstances are right.

As to the attitude which moderate sectors of the country should adopt for the state of siege to end, Cuadra explained that the important thing is that there must be a great deal of responsibility, especially among the news media. He added that freedom in any society does not imply only rights or powers but also duties, which means that this freedom must be exercised in a proper manner.

Asked about right- and left-wing terrorism, Cuadra explained that the latter has definitely been proven to be present in Chile, as has been duly recognized by the bureaus of the Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front in Paris and Buenos Aires. As to right-wing terrorism, Cuadra said that even though it is much publicized, court investigations have not turned up any conclusive evidence that it exists. He concluded by saying that the latest declaration of the Catholic Church is not particularly important.

JUNTA PASSES LAW ON EXCEPTIONAL MEASURES

PY240323 Santiago Radio Chilena in Spanish 2300 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] A few minutes ago we reported that the government junta has passed the organic constitutional draft law dealing with exceptional measures. We have a report from Osvaldo Yanez who is going to give us the details.

[Begin report] During the regular legislative session held in the Diego Portales building, the government junta approved the organic constitutional draft law on exceptional measures. The draft law will now be submitted to President Augusto Pinochet who in turn will submit it to the constitutional court before it is promulgated into law.

The legislative session was attended by Interior Minister Ricardo Garcia and Interior Under Secretary Alberto Cardemil.

Admiral Jose Toribio Merino, the commander of the Navy and a junta member, said that the most important project approved was the one related to exceptional measures, which is an organic constitutional law that defines the rights granted to the military chiefs in the different emergency zones or the exceptional measures declared in the country. Merino said that the new law complements the Constitution, which clearly indicates that in case of a catastrophe the executive branch can appoint in certain zones a military chief with special rights to maintain public order and tranquillity. Regarding freedom of press and information in the draft law approved by the government junta, Admiral Merino has said that specific measures have been established which are going to cause some changes in the current situation. Merino also said that the new changes will under no circumstances introduce new limitations on the press in a state of emergency. Merino also said:

[Begin recording] We are now in a state of siege, and the state of siege was established by the 1936 and 1925 Constitutions. This state of siege [words indistinct]. I cannot give any more details because the law has not yet been approved, and whatever I say may sound as if I have indications from our presidency. Not at all. There will no longer be a state of siege, but there will be a state of emergency instead. [end recording]

Admiral Merino continued talking with journalists on the 16th floor of the building at the conclusion of the legislative meeting. Merino said: This is as far as I can go. I cannot tell you anything else. He went on to say that we are not merely changing the name of the same thing. Merino explained that there will no longer be a state of siege but a state of emergency. On another subject, Admiral Merino said that the idea to legislate the situation of the Continental bank has been approved.

Interior Minister Ricardo Garcia said that new law complements the articles of the Constitution. Therefore, the law must be in harmony with the current Constitution, and control is up to the constitutional court. [end report]

AMBASSADOR TO U.S. ON RELATIONS, OTHER ISSUES

PY240217 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] The U.S. President is very well-disposed toward Chile, Chilean Ambassador Hernan Felipe Errazuriz has said. The ambassador has been recalled to report on his mission in the United States and he has been holding meetings with government and Foreign Ministry officials. Errazuriz explained that these meetings dealt with administrative affairs and general policy matters. The ambassador described relations between Chile and the United States as normal:

[Begin recording] I would like to be very clear about this. I believe that relations with the United States are normal although there is room for improvement, as in any human endeavour. I would also state very definitely that President Reagan is very well-disposed toward our country and there is a permanent friendship between our two countries. [end recording]

Errazuriz went on to say that in the course of his meetings in Chile he has not discussed Reagan's recent remarks about democracy in Latin America. He recalled a recent Chilean Foreign Ministry communique which stated that his interest in these matters is appreciated.

As to the shared desire of the United States, the FRG, and Great Britain to encourage dialogue between the Chilean Government and the various national sectors, Errazuriz said that he does not have enough information about the matter. He added that in his opinion all countries wish to maintain the best possible relations with others, and Chile shares this attitude.

Regarding the suggestion of the U.S. Department of Treasury that the World Bank should not back loans to Chile, Errazuriz said that he is sure that credits to Chile will not be cut off.

[Begin recording] [Errazuriz] This is a technical problem with the World Bank regarding guarantees. It is being studied and there are ways out of it just as with any other problem. It is just a difference of technical viewpoints which can be easily overcome.

[Reporter] But, Ambassador, if the World Bank does not give its backing, does it mean that the credits will be cut off?

[Errazuriz] No. [end recording]

Asked about the proposals of political leaders at a recent meeting in Washington to the effect that the United States should display more interest in the Chilean process, the ambassador said that he had little to say. He added that nowhere in the U.S. press did he read anything about these proposals, which apparently did not receive much coverage. Errazuriz went on to say that the new U.S. ambassador, Harry Barnes, will arrive in Chile by the end of September to replace James Theberge. It is worth pointing out that the two ambassadors are experts in Soviet affairs. He said in this regard:

[Begin recording] Ambassador Barnes, as far as I know, has been proposed to take over the embassy in Chile. His approval is being considered by the U.S. Congress. He is currently preparing Prime Minister Gandhi's visit to the United States and this will somewhat delay his arrival in Chile. [end recording]

Speaking about the change of assistant secretaries for inter-American affairs, Errazuriz said that Elliott Abrams, who will replace Langhorne A. Motley, is an outstanding person with whom he has excellent relations. He added that Abrams will take over in June. The ambassador indicated that individual changes have no effect on overall policy, adding that there is a better understanding of Chile's status quo abroad. As to NASA's project to have space shuttles land on Easter Island, Errazuriz had nothing to say on the grounds that nothing has been decided by the Chilean Government so far. He concluded by ruling out any possibility of him taking over a ministry.

BLACKOUT CAUSES PROBLEMS IN SANTIAGO, COPIAPO

PY250141 Paris AFP in Spanish 0105 GMT 25 May 85

[Text] Santiago, 24 May (AFP) -- According to police sources, the Chilean capital tonight suffered a general blackout of unknown origin at 2040. The general blackout affected the downtown Santiago area where the La Moneda Presidential Palace and the Defense Ministry were in darkness for about 10 minutes. The blackout, which caused serious problems in traffic and public utility services, also affected Copiapo, 800 km north of Santiago.

Bomb Attacks Blamed

PY251858 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1514 GMT 25 May 85

[Text] Santiago, 25 May (EFE) -- In an official communique issued early this morning, the military regime disclosed that several bomb attacks caused the blackout that last night affected 1,400 km of Chilean territory.

According to the communique issued by the National Social Communications Agency, three pylons belonging to the National Electric Power, Inc (Endesa) and two belonging to the Chilean Electric Company, Ltd [Chilectra] were knocked down by bomb explosions at 2037 (0037 GMT, 25 May).

The Endesa pylons damaged by the explosions were located in the Curico area, 200 km south of Santiago, in Rancagua, 100 km south, and in Melipilla, 70 km east of Santiago. The Chilectra pylons that were the target of the other attacks were located in the La Florida area in southeastern Santiago.

The power cut affected an area between Concepcion, 500 km south of Santiago, and Copiapo, 900 km north of Santiago, thus affecting 1,400 of the 4,500 km that lie between Arica in the north and Punta Arenas in the south. The situation returned to normal about 40 minutes after the blackout occurred, although some Santiago neighborhoods remained in the dark until around midnight (0400 GMT, 25 May).

The Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front [FPMR), which the government considers the armed faction of the Communist Party, claimed responsibility for the attacks through phone calls made to EFE and other foreign press agencies. The alleged FPMR spokesman said that the blackout was to celebrate the anniversary of the death of Chilean guerrilla leader Manuel Rodriguez, who headed a group of terrorists in the last century during the Chilean war of independence and whose name the front bears. The spokesman also said that it was also to support the day of protest for life and democracy that the opposition has scheduled for 30 May 1985.

CARABINEROS DETAIN 32 STUDENTS ON HUNGER STRIKE

PY242200 Paris AFP in Spanish 1228 GMT 24 May 85

[Text] Santiago, 24 May (AFP) -- More than 30 students were arrested today in Santiago by the Carabineros, who broke into a University of Chile area where the students were holding a hunger strike, according to reports of some witnesses. The students started their hunger strike on 23 May, demanding that the authorities release information about the whereabouts of 19-year-old Tatiana Farina Concha, a sociology student missing since 14 May. Various reports say that Tatiana Farina Concha may be one of the two women who died that day when a powerful bomb exploded in La Prado municipality, west of Santiago. The government attributed the attack to the clandestine Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front, but this socialist organization has rejected the accusation.

According to Yerko Ljubetic, president of the Student Federation of Chila [FECh], the Caribineros broke into the social studies school and arrested 32 of the hunger strikers. Several FECh leaders were arrested and taken to a police station in a closed vehicle.

Students Released

PY250202 Santiago Radio Chilena in Spanish 2300 GMT 24 May 85

[Excerpt] The 35 (as heard] social science students of the University of Chile who were arrested at noon today have been released after the police verified their addresses. Carabineros reported that the people held in the 1st Police Precinct included 29 men and six women who attended a meeting protesting the disappearance of sociology student Tatiana Farina Concha, 19, who has been missing since 14 May.

NICARAGUANS REPORTEDLY SUPPLYING USSR-MADE WEAPONS

PA260105 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 19 May 85 p 3 A

[Text] Popayan -- According to a confidential military intelligence report, supposedly discussed at the recent public order meeting held in Popayan, Nicaraguan revolutionaries have brought Soviet-made weapons to Cauca.

However, proving the presence of Nicaraguans in the Cauca area is diffcult, a military spokesman said. He added that if they fall in combat there is no way to identify them and at times they are buried in the mountains.

Regarding the Soviet-made weapons, the report states that FAL and Galil rifles and long-range weapons, like those used to shoot down airplanes and which could be used to shoot down Colombian Armed Forces helicopters, have been confiscated.

Also, the same report states that the man allegedly gunned down a few weeks ago on the Sumbico path, in Jambala Municipality, by the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia -- FARC was identified as Cristian Vladimir Parradok, a FARC dissident and member of the "Ricardo Franco" Front. Christian was 20 years old and a resident of the eastern plains.

The document also reveals that 19 April Movement, M-19, groups have set up a camp in the area of Loma Gorda and that the "Ricardo Franco" and the "Quintin Lame" Fronts operate between the towns of Lacio, Las Cruces, and Barondillo.

It was learned that the report has been sent to Army intelligence in Bogota where it will be studied in detail.

U.S. COMPANY-CHARTERED HELICOPTER CRASHES

PA251427 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1239 GMT 25 May 85

[Text] Bogota, 25 May (REUTER) -- A helicopter chartered by a U.S. oil company crashed in northeastern Colombia and civil aviation sources said that it may have been downed by guerrillas.

There is no immediate indication whether the two passengers on board [words indistinct].

The burning debris of the aircraft was found at a distance of 15 minutes flying time from the provincial capital of Arauca near the Venezuelan border.

The helicopter had been chartered by the Occidential Petroleum Corporation, which has been successfully drilling, since 1980, in the region of Arauca where leftist guerrillas have been active for a long time.

ELN Claims Responsibility

PA251843 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1750 GMT 25 May 85

[Text] Arauca -- The 10 occupants of the helicopter of the (Geotour) Company that was downed yesterday by members of the Army of National Liberation ELN hav been found safe and sound. As reported, a commission composed of officials of civil aeronautics and [word indistinct] traveled to the area this morning to determine the real circumstances of the incident.

The ELN gave a written declaration to Captain Jairo Avila, the pilot of the helicopter with registration number HK2373, stating that this action was due to the ELN's rejection of the invasion of our natural resources. The declaration adds that this helicopter provided services to the Occidential Petroleum Corporation, which is dedicated to taking over Colombia's petroleum deposits, thus trampling our rights and sovereignty. In the document, the ELN stated that at no time was it trying to stage a terrorist act; its objective was to consolidate the peace process and defend the Colombian people's interests.

DEFENSE MINISTER LEAVES FOR VENEZUELA TALKS

PA241606 Paris AFP in Spanish 0745 GMT 24 May 85

[Text] Bogota, 23 May (AFP) -- Colombian Defense Minister General Miguel Vega Uribe traveled to Venezuela today to analyze aspects related to drug trafficking and border security with the Venezuelan military authorities.

During his 3-day visit to Venezuela, Vega Uribe will contact his Venezuelan counterpart with the aim of reinforcing common actions in the struggle against drug trafficking and Colombian guerrillas at the border region.

The Colombian and Venezuelan Armed Forces have agreed on control measures in view of recent guerrilla incidents at the common border, and to prevent the shipments of marijuana and cocaine to the United States through Venezuelan territory.

The agreements reached between the two ministers will be ratified by Presidents Belisario Betancur and Jaime Lusinchi during their meeting in June at the Colombian border town of Arauca.

REPORTAGE ON LATEST ACTIVITIES, ACTIONS OF M-19

Evicted From Health Office

PA262320 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 25 May 85

[Report by Luis Alfonso Mena from Cali -- live or recorded]

[Text] At approximately 1600, 40 19 April Movement [M-19] members were ejected from the offices of the Municipal Education Secretariat. They had occupied these offices for 2 hours. The group demanded the presence of the spokespeople who are in Cali to analyze the peace process in the region.

They also demanded the presenece of International Red Cross officials to serve as guarantors for the safety of the guerrillas wounded yesterday durng a terrorist attack.

The invaders were ejected by the police and Army and 25 of them are now under detention in various police facilities. The invaders of the Municipal Health Secretariat carried out their occupation peacefully to demand that the attorney general's office carry out an extensive investigation to determine who is responsible for the terrorist attack in the El Penon neighborhood against Antonio Navarro Wolff and five other M-19 leaders. The detained individuals were taken to Metropolitan Police installations.

We are here with the municipal health secretary. Good evening, Dr Humberto Gonzalez Patino. What can you tell us about this incident?

[Gonzalez] Good evening. They peacefully occupied the installations of the Public Health Secretariat and voiced their opinion on the tragic incident that took place yesterday involving several of their M-19 companeros. They stayed there for about 1 and 1/2 hours; they were expelled by police and Army troops.

[Mena] [Question indistinct]

[Gonzalez] Well, [words indistinct] they demanded a meeting with Peace Commission members who are in Cali right now. However, they were arrested by the Armed Forces. There was no exchange with them after their arrest.

[Mena] We must add to this report by Humberto Gonzalez Patino, municipal health secretary, that as a result of this incident, there was structural damage to the offices of the Municipal Health Secretariat located in the vicinity of the departmental hospital, where the guerrillas and soldiers wounded during yesterday's attack were taken.

The employees of the secretariat experienced some anxious moments, because the invaders tried to resist the police as the troops entered the installations. It was then that the structural damage occurred to these public offices.

Meanwhile, former Minister of State Guillermo Alberto Gonzalez Mosquera, who is a peace commissioner, contacted various government, military, and rebel (?groups) to obtain a complete overview on the recent public order situation in Cali. He also suggested solutions to the (?specific work) of the regional commission for dialogue and peace for Valle and El Cauca.

Withdraws From National Dialogue

PY251744 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1644 GMT 25 May 85

[Excerpt] Bogota, 25 May (EFE) -- The Colombian guerrilla group M-19 today confirmed its withdrawal from the national dialogue in the wake of a recent attack perpetrated in Cali in which several M-19 leaders were wounded and of intermittent clashes with the Army in the western part of the country. The announcement was made to EFE by Andres Almarales, of the M-19 supreme command, who said that the dialogue is pointless because the situation has reached rock bottom owing to the actions of the enemies of peace.

Almarales also announced that next week the M-19 will submit a document to President Belisario Betancur proposing an emergency plan because the Army has obviously been breaking the truce every day and, therefore, the M-19 has decided to withdraw from the national dialogue.

EMBARGO AGAINST SOVIET SHIPS TO BE LIFTED

PY280255 Paris AFP in Spanish 0102 GMT 28 May 85

[Text] Lima, 27 May (AFP) -- Peruvian Prime and Foreign Minister Luis Percovich today announced that the embargo against the 12 Soviet fishing ships will be lifted since it has been proven that they are not guilty of the charges that prompted the embargo.

Percovich said that the problem is with the El Pacifico Fishing Company, because this company did not comply with its agreement with the Peruvian Fisheries Ministry. El Pacifico only leases the Soviet fishing ships for fishing operations.

Those who had requested the embargo did so on inadequate grounds and they will have to answer for that, Percovich told the journalists. The order for the embargo had been requested by the Fisheries Ministry.

Ten fishing ships were embargoed 5 days ago, and today the same measure was requested against the Tamboy and Wilgen Pick mother ships, in order to force the company to pay about $200,000 in taxes and to deliver more than 4,000 metric tons of fish for internal consumption in Peru, in keeping with the agreement.

Percovich announced this after meeting with Soviet Ambassador to Peru Anatoliy Filatov who, visibly relieved, said that the problem was about to be solved.

Filatov explained that the Soviet Union has no debt problem with Peru in the fishing field. He said that the embargo had caused concern in the Soviet Foreign Ministry since the embargo causes economic losses for the Soviet ships.

BOLIVIAN DELEGATION TO DISCUSS BORDER MARKERS

PY271432 Lima Radioprogramas del Peru in Spanish 0315 GMT 27 May 85

[Text] A Bolivian mission has arrived in Lima to discuss the replacement of border markers. This delegation head, Oscar Wiles Fernandez, said that the Peruvian-Bolivian joint commission will meet at Torre Tagle from 28 through 31 May.

SHINING PATH REFUSES AMNESTY, TO INTENSIFY WAR

PY251446 Lima Radioprogramas del Peru in Spanish 0455 GMT 25 May 85

[Report by Ayacucho correspondent (Mario Cueto Cardenas)]

[Text] The Peruvian Communist Party Shining Path announces through a [word indistinct], after a long silence in this city and throughout the country, that it will not accept the double tactics of repression and dialogue, or any amnesty or surrender. It says that the guerrilla war will be intensified because of the Shining Path's categoric and unfaltering determination to fully achieve a revolution leading to the development of socialism and communism.

JOINT DECLARATION SIGNED WITH PARAGUAY

PY241920 Paris AFP in Spanish 1346 GMT 24 May 85

[Text] Montevideo, 24 May (AFP) -- Paraguay's and Uruguay's desire for integration as well as their determination to promote integration within the framework of bilateral relations was emphasized in a joint declaration signed here by the Uruguayan and Paraguayan foreign ministers.

The document lauding negotiations started last Tuesday, 21 May, by Paraguayan Foreign Minister Carlos Augusto Saldivar, stresses firm support for all actions carried out by the Latin American Integration Association (ALADI).

The document also agreed to reactivate the joint Uruguayan-Paraguayan coordination and cooperation commission with the purpose of strengthening economic relations, trade exchange, industrial complementation, and investments. Saldivar and his counterpart, Enrique Iglesias, thus agreed that a technical meeting should be held in order to start negotiations of a partial scope within the ALADI framework.

The foreign ministers also placed great emphasis on Paraguay's desire to obtain a free port in the Uruguayan city of Nueva Palmira, 190 km east of Montevideo. A special commission was established for this purpose. In the next 60 days the commission will draw up a draft agreement on the subject.

The last subject mentioned was the renewal of direct flights between Montevideo and Asuncion, which have been suspended by the state-run Paraguayan Airlines (LAP) and the Uruguayan National Airlines (PLUNA) because of jurisdictional problems. It was agreed that the air authorities of the two countries should meet as soon as possible to reach an agreement satisfactory to the two parties.

During the last meeting held by the two ministers, Saldivar, on behalf of his government, invited Minister Iglesias to visit Paraguay.

During his stay in Montevideo, the Paraguayan foreign minister held a meeting with President Julio Maria Sanguinetti, participated in several working meetings, and attended a special ALADI session.

Saldivar will return to his country at noon today.

DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH CUBA EXPECTED SOON

PY251625 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 25 May 85

[Text] The exchange of messages between the Cuban and Uruguayan presidents hints at the prompt resumption of diplomatic relations between the two countries, which were interrupted almost 21 years ago.

Antonio Marchesano, president of the Uruguayan Chamber of Deputies, was President Julio Sanguinetti's messenger to Havana, and he will carry a message from Fidel Castro back to Montevideo. In Havana, Marchesano said: I carried the president's message to Fidel Castro, and I will carry another from the Cuban leader to Dr Sanguinetti.

Dr Marchesano stayed in the Cuban capital for 3 days and had meetings with high-level government officials, among them Fidel Castro himself, Vice President Carlos Rodriguez, Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca, and Education Minister Jose Fernandez.

The Uruguayan representative had a 90-minute meeting with Castro, who expressed his interest, whether or not diplomatic relations are resumed, that contacts and talks be maintained, so that both sides can discuss common concerns.

Marchesano, who returns to Montevideo today, said that no date has been set for the resumption of diplomatic relations, severed when all OAS member countries, except Mexico, decided to break off connections with Fidel Castro's revolutionary government.

The problem of the foreign debt dominated a large part of Castro's meeting with the Uruguayan official. During the meeting the Cuban leader again said that Latin America should adopt a joint position. Marchesano stated: I emphasized the need to resolve the trade question, to which Fidel Castro agreed, although he maintained that it is first necessary to try to solve the debt problem.

Dr Marchesano added: My visit to Cuba has been favorable from the point of view of contacts. We have resumed the dialogue, which had been interrupted for a long time, and I believe there are things about which we agree, regardless of the disagreements existing between Cuba and Uruguay.

Marchesano said that he will convey to his country the desire expressed by the Cuban leaders, particularly by Fidel Castro, to resume the dialogue on the basis of respect for the sovereignty and political integrity of the two countries.

The crisis prompted by the start of broadcasts by Radio Marti was also mentioned during the meeting with Castro, who expressed his displeasure with the U.S. measure.

The resumption of diplomatic relations between Cuba and Uruguay was mentioned by Uruguayan Foreign Minister Enrique Iglesias shortly after he took office last March. On that occasion, says the report coming from Havana, Iglesias referred to Sanguinetti's wish to resume relations with all Latin American countries, including Cuba, although no time was then established.

During the Marchesano's meetings with Carlos Rodriguez and other Cuban Government leaders, questions of general and bilateral interest were discussed. He also visited the National Assembly of the People's Government, where he had talks with Cuban politicians.

ITALIAN PRESIDENT TO SUPPORT LATIN AMERICA

PY241732 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 24 May 85

[Text] During an interview with Italian journalists accompanying President Sandro Pertini on his visit to Uruguay, President Julio Maria Sanguinetti said that our country is part of an indebted Latin America and that its constant demand in international forums is that all countries should understand the debt issue. Discussing concrete measures he expects from the EEC, President Sanguinetti asked for more access to that market; an agricultural policy preventing exportable surpluses from creating a dumping situation, thus barring the sale of our production; the granting of better terms for the payment of our debts; and participation in forms of cooperation like the ones we proposed to Italy regarding the development cooperation that will be created.

In answer to a question, President Sanguinetti said that the military situation is very clear, because the military is subordinate to the political power, and there is no reason for unrest.

Answering another question about the possible activities, of Logia Propaganda 2 in Uruguay, Sanguinetti stated that the Logia Propaganda 2 has no influence in the nation's affairs. He admitted, however, that it may be involved in some secret activities.

More economic, social, political, and cultural cooperation with Uruguay is to be expected following this visit by President Sandro Pertini, who promised to take the case of the Latin American countries to the European Parliament in an attempt to overcome what he referred to as the nationalistic selfishness of the European countries.

Pertini said that the European nations should look toward Latin America and try to help it economically, because these countries have recovered their freedom and need help to consolidate and strengthen that freedom.

BLANCO'S FERREIRA ALDUNATE LEAVES FOR SPAIN

PY280215 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1650 GMT 26 May 85

[Excerpt] Montevideo, 26 May (EFE) -- Wilson Ferreira Aldunate, leader of the National or Blanco Party of Uruguay, today started a visit to Spain where he will take part in a meeting organized by the Institute for African and Latin American Political Studies. Aldunate flew to Buenos Aires en route to Madrid where he will stay for 1 week.

The institute organizing the gathering will discuss the democratic processes in the Latin American southern cone, specifically in Argentina, Uruguay, and Brasil.

CASES OF 17 MISSING PERSONS PRESENTED IN COURT

PY211835 Paris AFP in Spanish 2314 GMT 20 May 85

[Excerpt] Montevideo, 20 May (AFP) -- A group of lawyers belonging to various parties and including independent attorneys today submitted to the Uruguayan civil courts the cases of 17 missing citizens who disappeared in this country during the military regime that ended 1 March. According to the statements made during a press conference by the relatives of the missing, there is evidence showing the participation of members of the joint forces (the Armed Forces and the police) in the abductions denounced by the group of lawyers.

Despite an indefinite strike being carried out by Uruguayan court employees, they have accepted the presentation of the cases in court.

CUBAN ENVOY ON RADIO MARTI, RETALIATORY PROGRAM

FL271632 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1310 GMT 27 May 85

[Text] The Cuban ambassador to Mexico, Jose Fernandez de Cossio, has said that the international community should prevent the United States from continuing to tramp on Latin America's sovereignty. Fernandez de Cossio was interviewed 25 May at Mexico City's airport where he received the Cuban parliamentary delegation which will participate in the disarmament symposium relative to conventional arms, scheduled to begin tomorrow in Mexico City. He said the Cuban, Mexican, and Latin American attitude should continue to be one of struggle for the defense of joint sovereignty, because an aggression against the dignity and autonomy of a Latin American nation is an aggression against all the peoples in the region.

When asked about the operation of Radio Marti which began broadcasting from Washington to Havana a few days ago, Fernandez de Cossio said this decision signifies an arrogant attitude offensive to the Cuban people, inasmuch as it represents an invasion of radio waves. He also said the initiation of these broadcasts exhibits a profound ignorance of and contempt for Cuban history and its heroes. To use the name of Jose Marti for a radio station that serves U.S. interests is a sarcasm that cannot be tolerated. He added that Cuba will shortly broadcast a radio program to inform the U.S. people of the truth.

NICARAGUAN ENVOY ON EMBARGO, ORTEGA'S TOUR

FL221815 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0255 GMT 22 May 85

[Text] Mexico City, 21 May (NOTIMEX) -- According to Nicaraguan Ambassador to Mexico Edmundo Jarquin, Nicaragua is economically stronger to withstand the U.S. trade embargo after President Daniel Ortega's working tour of several socialist countries. Interviewed at the capital city airport on his return here from Managua, the diplomat said that the results of the tour demonstrate the international community's support for the principles of the Sandinist revolution.

According to Jarquin, the characteristics of the Nicaraguan project -- consolidation of the mixed economy, political pluralism, and international nonalignment -- were recognized and endorsed in the socialist countries. The Central American ambassador added that Ortega's trip also had diplomatic significance, as it bolstered the international community's support for the Contadora Group. In this regard, he stressed that Contadora is limited by the fact that a party of great importance in the Central American crisis -- the United States -- the efforts of this peace organization in order to impose its law. [sentence as received] For this reason he stressed the need to resume the dialogue between the Reagan administration and the Sandinist junta. The intention is not to replace the Contadora Group's work, but merely to complement the work carried out by the foreign ministers of Mexico, Colombia, Venezuela, and Panama.

Regarding his country's $500-million debt with Mexico over oil supplied within the framework of the San Jose agreement, Jarquin answered: We are currently renegotiating and we hope the hydrocarbon shipments to Nicaragua can be resumed shortly.

VENEZUELAN ENVOY ON NICARAGUAN OIL SHIPMENTS

FL271627 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0124 GMT 27 May 85

[Text] Mexico City, 26 May (NOTIMEX) -- Venezuelan Ambassador to Mexico Guido Groscoors announced here today that Venezuela has suspended its oil shipments to Nicaragua because that Central American country was not making payments as established under the San Jose accord.

According to the diplomat, who went to Mexico City's international airport to receive the Venezuelan parliamentary delegation that will participate in the conventional weapons disarmament symposium, when an agreement is signed the parties must fulfill it, and if one of the parties does not do so, the other party is entitled to suspend the agreement. He explained that Venezuela suspended the daily shipment of 8,000 barrels of oil to Nicaragua because that country's debt is already considerable. He added that Venezuela has also reduced its oil production from 1.6 million barrels to 1.4 million barrels in accordance with OPEC agreements. The ambassador explained finally that although this reduced oil production will affect the economy up to a point, it will in no way halt the development program.

SOVIET AMBASSADOR VIEWS U.S. NICARAGUAN POLICY

FL271819 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1502 GMT 27 May 85

[Text] Mexico City, 27 May (NOTIMEX) -- Soviet Ambassador to Mexico Rostislav Sergeyev has accused the United States of implementing a perverse policy against Nicaragua and pressuring Mexico and other countries to minimize aid to that Central American country. According to him, the United States first implemented an economic blockade to strangle Daniel Ortega's government, then pressured other nations to refrain from helping Nicaragua, and finally announced that only Moscow provides any aid to that country. In addition, he said, the United States claims that Nicaragua is an aligned nation and this is a perverse lie. Further on, the Soviet ambassador said that his country will unconditionally supply the hydrocarbons needed by Nicaragua. He added that giving aid to any country endangered by the United States and some of its allies is a duty and a right of free nations, as no one should be allowed to violate international law.

He added that during the last 40 years the USSR has proposed over 100 initiatives on the maintenance of peace, especially in connection with the nuclear arms network. Sergeyev said that although the United Nations is not the only means to achieve peace, it is an important forum for the various countries to explain their stances, as the United Nations can influence the international situation.

SEPULVEDA SAYS CONTADORA's VALIDITY CONFIRMED

FL232020 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1900 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] Mexico City, 23 May (NOTIMEX) -- Mexican Foreign Secretary Bernardo Sepulveda Amor today asserted that the Contadora Group has confirmed its validity and political legitimacy and is optimistic about advancing toward Central American peace and security. He also announced that a meeting of plenipotentiary representatives will soon be held to continue improving the Contadora Document and to finish work that is deemed particularly important for the establishment of formal legal commitments and political understandings leading to regional peace.

Interviewed during the farewell event held for Panamanian President Nicolas Ardito Barletta at the official residence of Los Pinos, the Mexican foreign secretary asserted that during their meetings the Mexican and Panamanian presidents reviewed the actions carried out during the last 30 months by the Contadora Group, which also includes Venezuela and Colombia. It has been very intense work, and it was noted that Contadora has clearly benefited Central American peace. However, it was also acknowledged that the negotiations and political process must be promoted, he explained.

Sepulveda Amor finally reiterated the positive results of the bilateral and multilateral talks held by the Mexican and Panamanian presidents, which will lead to greater understanding in the political, economic, and cultural relations between the two nations.

PRESIDENT REPORTS ON RESULTS OF MEXICAN VISIT

PA241740 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 0000 GMT 24 May 85

[Text] Panamanian President Nicolas Ardito Barletta arrived at the Panamanian Air Force terminal at 1500 following his visit to Mexico. He was accorded honors on his arrival and welcomed by ministers, high-ranking government officials, and representatives of the Defense Forces. Ardito Barletta discussed the results of working meetings with Mexican businessmen:

[Begin recording -- broadcast in progress] ...The formulas that deal with the San Jose accord in a favorable way for Panama. It is also a positive, complete achievement. Therefore, I think the results on bilateral aspects, which were the main topics discussed in the meetings with President De la Madrid and his government team, were as broad and significant as we had hoped. We also spoke extensively about Central America and the Contadora countries' function in helping Central America find the path of peace. The talks were good because they enabled us to analyze the situation in a new and different way, and to strengthen our aims to have the Contadora Group further encourage negotiations among Central Americans so that faith and trust will increase among these countries. This is the only thing that will enable them to return to the path of peace.

We also addressed the topics of the Latin American economic situation and our countries' needs. We noted that it is important that international talks and negotiations this year reconsider the parameters in which the Latin American foreign debt is refinanced and commercial opportunities, specifically the increase in Latin American exports to the rest of the world. There was much agreement on this aspect and we think that we can make an effort by working with the other Latin American leaders. The arrangements we have made to increase trade between Panama and Mexico, and, above all, to increase Panama's exports to Mexico, which is the major result of the agreement that we signed during this visit, will be implemented by Panamanian and Mexican businessmen. Therefore, the meetings with Mexican business leaders, the third in 8 months, will permit us to increase these efforts so we can obtain the specific results we all desire. [end recording]

NORIEGA TO MEDIATE BETWEEN HONDURAS, NICARAGUA

PA261620 Panama City LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 26 May 85 p 1 A

[Text] The Panamanian Government has authorized General Manuel Antonio Noriega, commander in chief of the National Defense Forces, to mediate between the heads of the Honduran and Nicaraguan Armies in view of the border conflict between these two Central American nations.

Panamanian Foreign Minister Jorge Abadia told LA REPUBLICA that on 24 May his office received a telex from Managua in which Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto requested Gen Noriega's mediation between General Walter Lopez, commander in chief of the Honduran Armed Forces, and Commander of the Revolution Humberto Ortega, commander in chief of the Sandinist People's Army.

Panamanian Foreign Minister Abadia said that the Panamanian Foreign Ministry was pleased with the request because there is a conflict on the Honduran-Nicaraguan border that could cause a confrontation between the two Armies at any moment. The foreign minister added that this situation affects the peacemaking efforts of the Contadora Group in Central America and could endanger the signing of a peace document.

The Panamanian foreign minister added that in the past few days we have contacted the parties involved in an attempt to achieve a conciliation at the border and prevent problems between these two Central American states.

In view of the request by Nicaraguan Foreign Minister D'Escoto, and after consulting with Panamanian President Nicolas Ardito Barletta, the Panamanian Government has authorized Gen Noriega to mediate between the commanders of the two Armies in an attempt to achieve peace and harmony between Honduras and Nicaragua. All of Gen Noriega's contacts will be at a military level. In view of the delicate, conflictive situation between the two Central American nations, Panama's leadership and peacemaking efforts are once again accentuated, as is the recognition of the Panamanian National Defense Forces as an institute of balance and decisionmaking in the strengthening of peace between the two Armies and peoples.

The Panamanian Government is contacting the heads of state and the members of the Contadora Group to keep them informed of the latest developments.

TELEVISION STATION COMMENTS ON RADIO MARTI

PA270907 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 0000 GMT 27 May 85

[Station commentary]

[Text] Let us listen to Radio Marti's first transmission: Good morning, Cuba. You are listening to Radio Marti on the air, today, now, Radio Marti.

These were the first words broadcast on Monday, 20 May, from the transmission site of the modern and powerful station Radio Marti, which was installed and financed by the government of President Ronald Reagan, in Miami, Florida.

After years of controversy and discussion in the U.S. Senate, approval was granted for Radio Marti to broadcast from U.S. territory to Castro's communist Caribbean island. Its transmissions in Spanish are received clearly in Cuba, despite Fidel Castro's efforts to use electronic interference systems.

Since the victory of the Cuban revolution led by Castro on 8 January 1959, this country has been ruled by the communist regime imposed by him, with the support and economic and military aid of the USSR. Following these developments, all Latin American countries with democratic governments, except Mexico, rejected the communist doctrine and severed relations with Cuba. In recent years, the governments of some of these countries, such as Colombia, Ecuador, Brazil, Uruguay, and Argentina, have established some relations with Fidel Castro's government or at least have made some efforts toward reconciliation. According to some analysts the reconciliation between Cuba and Argentina could have been motivated by Argentina's defeat in the Malvinas by the British troops. Heads of state and representatives of several Latin American countries have visited Cuba and talked to Fidel Castro.

There was also a U.S. intervention in Grenada as a result of the thousands of Cubans that were sent to the island, supposedly to cooperate with the Grenadian Government to build a landing field. In reality, it was just a Marxist-Leninist intervention.

It did not take long for Fidel Castro to react to Radio Marti's transmission. The immigration agreement between the United States and Cuba establishing an air bridge between Havana and Miami was suspended. Meanwhile, Fidel Castro continues his indoctrination program of the Cuban people and strong criticism of the U.S. Government, terming Radio Marti's transmissions from the United States to Cuba an ideological intervention.

COSTA RICA

AUTHORITIES INVESTIGATE EPS-ARDE FIGHTING

PA271958 San Jose Radio Impacto in Spanish 1830 GMT 27 May 85

[Text] The Security Council will receive a report this afternoon on the aggression committed in the national territory yesterday as a result of clashes in Nicaraguan territory. Colonel Oscar Vidal told "Impact" newscast that Los Chiles Commander Colonel Aponte visited the site of the incidents this morning in order to compile evidence and present a report to the public security minister, who will take it to the council. Col Vidal explained that there were no problems on the Costa Rican side during the clashes, but that in the afternoon, (Las Tiricias) guardsmen had to flee the area and seek refugee deeper in national territory. It is estimated that shells penetrated up to 600 meters into Costa Rican territory; this constitutes a clear aggression.

This morning when the Costa Rican patrolmen went to guard the border, they saw that clashes were still under way between the Sandinist People's Army [LPS] and (Democratic Republican Alliance [ARDE] forces. Only one wounded ARDE fighter has entered Costa Rica so far, but other sources reported that two members of ARDE were killed at the scene of the clashes. The wounded rebel is still at the San Carlos hospital; his name is Fausto Florez Lopez.

Meanwhile, Col Vidal said that it is very possibile that today or tomorrow there will be a massive flow of refugees due to yesterday's fighting.

CENTRAL BANK ANNOUNCES COLON DEVALUATION

PA241706 San Jose Radio Impacto in Spanish 1830 GMT 23 May 85

[Excerpts] Last night, the Costa Rican Central Bank announced a new 35-cent devaluation of the colon. Since this morning, the dollar exchange rate for purchases is 49.35 colones and 49.85 colones for sales.

This is the sixth devaluation of the national currency in less than 6 months. The devaluations have been carried out gradually. However, the executive president of the Central Bank announced that the dollar exchange rate will reach 53 colones this year, which means that new devaluations are expected. This measure is expected to benefit exporters, who will earn 35 million colones from the 35-cent devaluation, since Costa Rican exports total 1 billion colones a year.

This mini-devaluation was expected in view of the visit to Costa Rica by IMF experts, who are evaluating all of the aspects included in the agreement.

EL SALVADOR

DUARTE RETURNS FROM U.S., DISCUSSES DIALOGUE

PA270503 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0444 GMT 27 May 85

[Text] San Salvador, 26 May (ACAN-EFE) -- Salvadoran President Jose Napoleon Duarte has asserted that he is willing to continue the dialogue with armed groups and search for peace, as long as the dialogue is sincere and represents a benefit for the people. shortly after his arrival tonight at the international airport in El Salvador, in Comalapa, 44 km south of the capital, the president asserted: "I am ready to sit down and talk with the rebels, tomorrow if necessary, wherever it may be, without any obstacles."

President Duarte arrived from the United States, where he paid a semi-official visit for 10 days, seeking economic and military support.

President Duarte said that he will meet tomorrow with Gregorio Rosas Chavez, auxiliary bishop of San Salvador, to discuss the plans for a third meeting with the rebels, in the search of peace. The Salvadoran president said that "he believes in a dialogue that is sincere, in a dialogue for peace, but not in a tactical dialogue, nor in a dialogue for war."

"I feel that the guerrillas and the government should reach an agreement to serve the people, that we must decide what changes we should make so that the people do not have to suffer from way anymore," President Duarte said. He added: "that is why I have talked about humanizing the conflict, so that we can sit down to talk about the things we have to improve, so that the people will feel that the dialogue is beneficial and that its only objective is peace." Duarte stressed that "the humanization of the war is a procedure that will gradually open the path toward a final peace in El Salvador."

To continue the talks with the FDR and the FMLN, it is necessary to have "political willingness," Duarte said. "I am not concerned over how or where the third meeting will take place, or who will be present. But I do believe that there should be political willingness and sincerity," Duarte stressed.

The government headed by Duarte and the FMLN-FDR initiated a dialogue on 15 October 1984. So far, they have met twice in a search for peaceful mechanisms to end the war in the country, which has continued for 5 years and has resulted in more than 50,000 deaths.

At the airport, the president was welcomed by Defense Minister George Eugenio Vides Casanova, Chief Justice Francisco Jose Guerrero, Joint Chief of Armed Forces Staff General Adolfo Blandon, and other officials.

Appoints New Foreign Minister

PA270311 Paris AFP in Spanish 0249 GMT 27 May 85

[Text] San Salvador, 26 May (AFP) -- Upon returning from the United States today, Salvadoran President Jose Napoleon Duarte announced the appointment of Rodolfo Claramount who is currently the Salvadoran vice president and interior minister, as foreign minister, replacing Jorge Tenorio.

The change will be effective 1 June. Former Foreign Minister Tenorio has been appointed minister of the presidency, while the current holder of this ministry [Julio Adolfo Rey Prendes] will be in charge of the new Ministry of Culture and Communications, to be created by the Legislative Assembly during next week's first plenary session to begin on Monday.

On another subject, on his arrival, President Duarte said that he expects to meet with Msgr Gregorio Rosas Chavez, the auxiliary bishop of San Salvador this week, in order to receive from him a reply from the FDR-FMLN regarding the private meeting to be held prior to the third round of talks.

MAYORAL OFFICES RELOCATED FOR BETTER SECURITY

PA260145 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 24 May 85 p 3, 35

[Text] The offices of 13 Morazan Department mayors have been relocated to San Francisco Gotera to ensure their normal operation. The mayors of the towns in question said that as a result of the threats received and the kidnappings and murders of the mayors in the country's eastern area and the destruction of municipal buildings, they decided to relocate to San Francisco Gotera to better serve the various towns.

They said that the mayoral offices now located in San Francisco Gotera are Corinto, Villa del Rosario, Arambala, San Fernando, Toroloa, Perquin, Joateca, Jocoaitique, Meanguera, Cjilanga, Cacaopera, Guatajiagua, and San Isidro, all in Morazan Department, and are issuing identity documents to all inhabitants of these towns.

"We have concentrated our administrative activities in San Francisco Gotera due to the continued terrorist attacks on municipal buildings," they added. They said that any other business with the mayors of these towns will be conducted in San Francisco Gotera.

Six mayoral offices of San Miguel Department are now operating out of the city of San Miguel, according to Department Governor Leonidas Viera. They are Sesori, San Jorge, Carolina, Lolotique, Moncagua, and Chirilagua and are operating out of the governor's office in San Miguel. He said that the decision was made because of towns in question are in danger of being attacked by extremists. Therefore, the mayoral offices along with all their files were transferred to the governor's office.

The mayors of these towns are working in harmony despite the problems they face, Leonidas Viera said.

FMLN ANNOUNCES SUSPENSION OF TRANSPORTATION BAR

PA280133 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 28 May 85

[Text] Attention, attention. The transportation ban will be suspended as of Tuesday, 28 May. Attention: As of Tuesday, 28 May, our decision to paralyze transportation at the national level is suspended.

Following our decision to suspend the transportation paralyzation, we have inflicted another hard blow on the dictatorship's war economy, affecting the genocidal Armed Forces. For every million Ronald Reagan gives to Duarte, the people in arms will destory five million.

We repeat: As of Tuesday, 28 May, we have suspended the national transporation paralyzation. We live to fight; we fight to win!

GUATEMALA

COSTA RICAN MINISTER ON SUSPENDING EXPORTS

PA241955 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 23 May 85 p 3

[Text] Costa Rica has decided to suspend its exports to the other Central American countries because they owe it $300 million and it cannot "continue to subsidize the consumption of the area." This was stated Costa Rican Economy Minister Odalier Villalobos here yesterday. The visiting official was interviewed at the national palace after he met with his Guatemalan counterpart Ariel Rivera Irias to discuss the new Central American tariffs.

Among other things he said that Guatemala owes Costa Rica $50 million -- another reason that compelled him to come to the country to discuss ways for canceling this debt. The problem is becoming somewhat difficult because the other Central American nations owed us too much and if we cannot recover this money, the inflation rate could rise to worrisome levels in Costa Rica.

He said that his office is analyzing the problem to take preventive measures which would include, as the most important priority, the suspension of exports to area countries in the next few months.

ASSEMBLY SETS 3 NOVEMBER AS ELECTIONS DATE

PA241852 Guatemala City Radio Nuevo Mundo Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] Yesterday, Constituent Assembly deputies approved the only section of the new constitution on temporary regulations establishing a new date for general elections. According to temporary Article 7 of the constitution, the general elections will be held on Sunday, 3 November. On that day, the Guatemalan people will choose a new constitutional president, a new vice president, legislative deputies, and municipal government members throughout the country. The temporary regulations approved by the deputies also established that if necessary, there will be a second round of elections on Sunday, 8 December, to choose the president and vice president of the Republic.

According to the electoral schedule approved by the Assembly, the Supreme Electoral Tribunal, and the head of state, it had been stipulated that elections would be held on Sunday, 27 October. However, this week General Oscar Mejia Victores, the head of state, disclosed that a request to move the elections to Sunday, 3 November, was being studied. This decision was based on the fact that the rainy season will be over by then and it will be easier for Guatemalans to go to the polls. In addition, it is also felt that farmworkers, who go to other regions of the country to temporarily work in the fields, will be home by then.

The temporary regulations also stipulate that the new constitution will go into effect on 14 January 1986, which is the date on which the congress will be installed. Congress will swear in the new president on that same date. The Constituent Assembly will be dissolved as soon as the new congress begins work. The new congress deputies will be chosen on 3 November.

The country's constitutional order was interrupted on 23 March 1982 when a military coup d'etat resulted in the overthrow of the regime of General Fernando Romeo Lucas Garcia, who ruled the country from 1978 until 1982. Those involved in the coupe justified their action saying it was needed due to corruption and the electoral fraud in the 7 March 1982 presidential elections.

HONDURAS

SUAZO RETURNS, TERMS U.S. VISIT SUCCESSFUL

PA280212 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1130 GMT 37 May 85

[Excerpts] President Roberto Suazo Cordova returned to Honduras on Saturday after paying an official visit to the United States where, among other things, he talked with President Ronald Reagan. At this meeting a document was signed stipulating the support that Honduras will receive from the United States if it is attacked by another country and reaffirming the commitment to help us strengthen our democracy and maintain a climate of freedom and peace.

On his arrival at the Toncontin Airport the president was received by thousands of his fellow countrymen who, without distinction of political ideologies, expressed their full support for the administration's performance in office and for the success of his trip. Members of all three branches of government, the diplomatic corps, and officials from various autonomous and semi-autonomous government organizations were at the airport to demonstrate their affection for the president. When the president stepped out of the presidential plane on his return from Houston, where he paid a personal visit to the governor of Texas, he received a long ovation from his fellow citizens, who thanked him for his efforts to provide a better future for us. The president then left for La Paz, where he was also received by a large crowd.

[Begin recording] [Suazo] I am pleased and happy to see the Honduran people gathered to receive me, first in Toncontin and now here in La Paz, where I will rest today and tomorrow because on Monday I have to be at the office.

[Reporter] Do you believe that all the requests made during the talks with the United States to update the economic and military treaties were granted?

[Suazo] Yes, everything will be as it was discussed here at the National Security Council, including economic and security conditions. Everything has been advancing as planned. We signed a few additional protocols for economic aid, and we obtained an additional $75 million, 150 million lempiras, to (?stabilize) the balance of payments and strengthen the private sector. [end recording]

STATEMENT ISSUED ON CONTADORA MEETING

PA261703 Tegucigalpa EL HERALDO in Spanish 17 May 85 p 3

[Press communique No 037-85 issued by the Foreign Secretariat in Tegucigalpa on 16 May]

[Text] The Foreign Relations Secretariat, in view of the press interpretation given to statements by Dr Jorge Ramon Hernandez Alcerro and Colonel Wilfredo Sanchez, head of the Honduran delegation to the meeting of plenipotentiaries of the Contadora Group, and the delegation's adviser, respectively, at the meeting in Panama City, reports that these statements were twisted and distorted. Dr Hernandez Alcerro basically said the following in reply to a question on whether Honduras would accept the formation of a Contadora Group commission to investigate the border situation between Honduras and Nicaragua.

"In order to get Nicaragua to cease firing its artillery at Honduran territory, it is not necessary to form a commission. It is Nicaragua's unilateral duty not to attack neighboring countries."

Referring to the plan proposed by Nicaragua, Ambassador Hernandez Alcerro pointed out: "The plan proposed by Nicaragua is not new because in September 1983 the Central American countries agreed to adopt a series of measures to prevent incidents and resolve controversies among neighboring countries. The treatment agreed upon by the Central American countries, within the Contadora Document, of the issue of unconventional forces that exist in several Central American nations is not new either."

In this regard, Dr Hernandez Alcerro said: "During the morning sessions last Tuesday, upon discussing the chapter on security matters, the five Central American countries reached a consensus on three points: The first is in regard to denying the insurgents the use of territory and dismantling their installations, means, and facilities. The second refers to their disarmament and withdrawal from the border zones and, if possible, from the Central American region. The third is related to a regional consensus to establish joint security commissions to prevent incidents and resolve controversies among neighboring states."

The head of the Honduran delegation stressed that "these agreements, which are included in the Contadora Document, are being violated. They must be observed by all the countries in the region." He stressed that "these agreements cannot be applied as long as the Contadora Document is not implemented, in view of the regional and global aspects of the negotiation. Furthermore, there is a great obstacle at this time to the signing and implementation of the document: Nicaragua has rejected the Contadora Group's proposals on disarmament and internal dialogue that would lead to national reconciliation.

These Contadora Group proposals are contained in a document that was analyzed during the meeting of the plenipotentiaries. Nicaragua has also presented new obstacles to the signing and implementation of the Contadora Document by retreating from its position regarding the mechanisms of verification and control approved by consensus on 12 April, when it presented a series of written observations on this topic that hinder the effective progress of the negotiations."

The Secretariat of Foreign Relations trusts that with this statement, the consistency of the Honduran Government will be clearly established regarding the Central American conflict.

Tegucigalpa, 16 May 1985

[Signed] Directorate of Information and Press, Foreign Relations Secretariat

ROUND OF BORDER TALKS WITH EL SALVADOR CONCLUDES

PY260135 Paris AFP in Spanish 2354 GMT 25 May 85

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 25 May (AFP) -- Salvadoran Deputy Foreign Minister Ricardo Acevedo has stated that the Salvadoran Government will make every possible effort to achieve a direct agreement regarding the 100-year-old border dispute with Honduras.

According to the general peace treaty, which was signed on 30 April 1980 in Peru and which normalized relations after the 1969 armed confrontation, the deadline for reaching a bilateral agreement expires on 10 December 1985. If an agreement is not reached, then the case will be submitted to the International Court at The Hague.

Nevertheless, Acevedo reiterated El Salvador's position regarding the inviolability of its territory, a position that, according to official Honduran circles, can lead the negotiations, in which both parties will have to make concessions in order to reach an agreement, and not end in failure.

The Honduran Government has stated that the Salvadoran Government lacks the political will to resolve the dispute and that this is the reason why during September 1984 is suspended the training of that country's troops at Puerto Castilla, located on the Atlantic. The Regional Military Training Center (CREM) was set up by the United States in June 1983 at Puerto Castilla to nearly exclusively train the Salvadoran Army. In view of Honduran opposition to the training, the center will be closed down definitively in June 1985.

After concluding another 2-day round of talks between the joint border commissions in this capital, Acevedo stressed that El Salvador will not renounce the inviolability of its territory, although he did indicate negotiations are taking place. He acknowledged that the deadline is about to expire and he stated that we are working hard to reach a direct agreement and the commissions are making a great effort to overcome the points of friction. We are doing everything possible in order not to go to The Hague, but if the circumstances demand it we will have to go, he added.

The peace treaty provides for a 6-month period to allow the two countries to prepare themselves before going before the high court in the event a direct agreement is not achieved.

Honduran Deputy Foreign Minister Tomas Arita has stated that in view of the results of this round of talks, there is confidence that an agreement will be reached before the deadline expires. There was a substantial advance during the talks held in Tegucigalpa, he said, stressing that both parties have the will and desire to reach an agreement.

NICARAGUA

NUNEZ ON U.S. 'PLANS AGAINST DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS'

PA250157 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 25 May 85

[Text] The U.S. Government is planning to organize special groups which will be installed in territories bordering Nicaragua, from where they can attack diplomatic missions in our country. Carlos Nunez Tellez, commander of the revolution and president of the National Assembly, made these charges during the commemorative act on the sixth anniversary of the death in combat of Commander German Pomares Ordonez, held in El Viejo, Chinandega Department in Region 2:

[Begin recording] The U.S. Government, the world's most warmongering power, has thousands of plans. One of its latest is to organize special groups, which will be operating from neighboring countries, for example Costa Rica, from where they can attack diplomatic missions here. The U.S. Government will be using its news media, its propaganda apparatus and particularly the CIA, to make the people of those countries believe that Nicaragua is the one carrying out these actions.

They are so cynical that not only are they planning to carry out such attacks on specific diplomatic missions, but in order to give these actions more credibility, they are planning on attacking one of their own diplomatic missions, which could be used as a pretext to attack Nicaragua and create more tension in relations between the Central American governments.

We must be alert. This struggle is not only military, it is political, ideological, and international. Another plan which is being rapidly promoted among the fundamental sectors of the revolution, that is the workers, the peasants, and the patriotic sectors, is to spread rumors to encourage immigration to other countries, so that the imperialist propaganda can say that the people are fleeing from Nicaragua because they disagree with the revolution. As a result of these rumors, many technicians have left the country. The latest rumor which has been discussed at the National Assembly, is that doctors were required to pay $6,000 to leave the country. There were doctors and technicians who believed this. There were some Nicaraguans who tried to get a visa to leave the country.

The FSLN leaders, the masses leaders and the leaders of organizations must realize that this struggle is also an ideological one. In line with everything we have said here today, in El Viejo municipality, the FSLN National Directorate would like to see the FSLN members, as leaders of the vanguard in the region, to conduct themselves in an exemplary manner and to be the first to take the lead in production, to increase productivity of enterprises, in the task of defense, and in this way the residents of El Viejo can show their respect for the FSLN through exemplary actions. [end recording]

Comments on Shultz Speech

PA251626 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 25 May 85

[Excerpts] The Reagan administration wants to prepare special commando groups that would operate in countries bordering Nicaragua and that would carry out attacks on diplomatic missions. This charge was made by Commander of the Revolution Carlos Nunez Tellez during a ceremony to commemorate the sixth anniversary of the fall in combat of Commander German Pomares Ordonez.

[Begin recording] Yesterday, he [U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz] delivered a speech that is, perhaps, the most dangerous speech delivered thus far. The speech outlined the U.S. Administration's strategy toward Nicaragua.

This gentleman, whom we would like to see coming to Nicaragua as the head of the Marines, is irritated because the U.S. Congress has not approved the 14 million for the mercenary forces operating from Honduras and Costa Rica. He has accused the U.S. Congress of not understanding that bipartisanship means acknowledging that according to the Constitution there is only one president at a given time and that only the president can direct foreign relations. He said: The anti-Sandinist rebels represent our most effective constraints to the communist regime. He said this in referring to the Sandinist regime. He added: They [some congressmen] are in fact opposed to applying economic or any other kind of sanction against Nicaragua.

As a further condemnation of the U.S. congressmen who visit Nicaragua, Shultz added: In Congress there are also those who say that they prefer the military option if everything else fails and there is a real threat. However, by refusing to help the freedom fighters -- mercenary beasts, in Nicaraguan language -- with humanitarian aid -- listen carefully to this -- they are actually making it possible for the threat to increase, and we will be facing the situation with U.S. combat troops.

In other words, this gentleman is threatening Congress by saying that if it does not finance the counterrevolution, it will have to resort to an intervention. He has scolded congressmen because they are coming to Nicaragua and meeting with the government, with the leaders by the political parties, including the rightist parties, and taking their own conclusions back to the U.S. Congress. The Reagan officials are upset because the congressmen do not agree with them.

Regarding this situation, we want to state the following: 1. Nicaragua's doors will remain wide open for all U.S. citizens who want to come to our country to revolution and to establish direct relations with our people. 2. Nicaragua will keep its doors open to all North Americans involved in solidarity work, who come as volunteers to work in cotton or coffee picking, or who provide technological assistance to improve our cooperatives, our sugar mills. We are not enemies of the American people. 3. Nicaragua will keep its doors open to all congressmen who want to prevent North American youths from dying in Nicaragua, and North American soldiers from killing young Nicaraguans. We will provide these congressmen with all the facilities available so that they may get to know our revolution and put a halt to the crazy policies of this U.S. President, who every day turns out to be more dangerous. [end recording]

Regarding Shultz' threats about sending troops to Nicaragua if the regional situation worsens, Commander Nunez said:

[Begin recording] Regarding Shultz' statement that a possible worsening of the situation could move the United States to introduce intervention troops in Nicaragua, we say: The day this happens, Andres Castro will again take his guardpost, and Benjamin Zeledon and Sandino will take their rifles. The three will place themselves at the head of the FSLN National Directorate and the Nicaraguan people to finish off the interventionists. [applause] [end recording]

VICE PRESIDENT RAMIREZ VISITS AUSTRIA, FRG

Vienna Visit

For Managua and Vienna reportage on the visit by Vice President Mercado Ramirez, including Austrian Interior Minister Karl Blecha's pledge to grant Nicaragua a loan, see the Austria section of the 24 May Western Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

Bonn Visit

PA270820 Managua International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 27 May 85

[Text] A delegation headed by Nicaraguan Vice President Sergio Ramirez arrived in Bonn today for an official visit on the third leg of a tour through Western Europe. The Nicaraguan Government delegation was welcomed by FRG officials and Heberto Incer, Nicaraguan ambassador to the FRG. The revolutionary leader will meet with the FRG foreign minister and other government and political leaders.

RAMIREZ LETTER ASKS FOR CREDITS FROM BRAZIL

PA241730 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 24 May 85

[Text] Brasilia -- Nicaraguan Presidency Minister [title as heard] Rodrigo Reyes was received this afternoon by Brazilian President Jose Sarney, to whom he delivered a message from Nicarguan Vice President Sergio Ramirez Mercado. In the message Nicaragua asks for credits to allow it to face the economic difficulties resulting from the U.S. trade embargo. Earlier, Reyes had talked with Brazilian Foreign Minister Olavo Setubal. He said that the Brazilian head of state promised to analyze new forms of cooperation with Nicaragua.

Reyes announced that a Nicaraguan economic team will travel to Brazil next month to review the possibilities of cooperation between the two countries.

TINOCO SUGGESTS CANADIAN MEDIATION WITH U.S.

PA241610 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1930 GMT 23 May 85

[Special report for Radio Sandino from Montreal, Canada]

[Text] Nicaraguan Deputy Foreign Minister Victor Hugo Tinoco has said that he will ask Canada to intercede in order to convince the United States of the need for a political solution in Central America.

Tinoco, who will meet today with senior Canadian officials, made the statement during an interview with the newspaper LA PRESSE of Montreal. I would like to see Joseph Clark, Canadian secretary of state for external affairs, use his good offices to seek a political solution to the conflict in Central America, Tinoco said. Tinoco added that for a long time the negotiations promoted by the Contadora Group will be the only valid way to reach peace in the area, even though that process is currently facing serious problems.

Regarding the trade embargo imposed on Nicaragua, Tinoco noted that it has left the United States more isolated than the Nicaraguan people. No nation, no nation except El Salvador and Honduras, has backed the U.S. boycott, he said, and recalled that in fact countries like France, Spain, and Sweden have expanded their lines of credit to Nicaragua.

In addition to meeting with Clark, Tinoco is scheduled to meet with the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Canadian Parliament. His presence in Canada coincides with Nicaragua's efforts to expand its trade with this country. The Nicaraguan Government is finalizing arrangements to establish a trade office in Toronto which will replace the one closed by the U.S. Administration in Miami.

Trade between Nicaragua and Canada has grown from $3.8 million in 1978 to almost $100 million last year. Canada purchased mainly beef, cotton, and coffee. Nicaragua purchased fertilizer, farm equipment, and cattle, and is expected to explore the pharmaceutical industry in the future.

SANDINIST ARMY CAPTURES CONTRA COMMAND POST

PY210129 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1950 GMT 20 May 85

[Text] Managua, 20 May (EFE) -- Official sources reported today that the Sandinist Army has killed 50 counterrevolutionaries while capturing the command post of the Jorge Salazar Regional Command located on the Atlantic coast. The camp and command post of the opposition Nicaraguan Democratic Force (FDN) had been established in Cano Batitan, 350 km northeast of Managua. At this position the rebels had assembled a force of 1,000 armed men and 500 kidnapped peasants, Sandinist sources have reported in Managua.

The Socrates Sandino and Farabundo Marti irregular battalions launched their operations on 25 April and they are still pursuing the contras who are fleeing toward the Prinzapolka River in the Atlantic region. On 9 May the FDN position fell into the hands of the two battalions made up of young Nicaraguans who are doing their compulsory military service. In the middle of last week, the forces of the regional command tried to recapture the Batitan camp but failed, losing 30 persons in the attempt, according to official sources. The actions, which ended with the capture by the Sandinist Army of the contra position, involved 15 days of fighting. Among the dead rebels are two Hondurans, one of whom has been identified as Vencedor, an officer of the Honduran Army and chief of a group of experts in explosives, the sources reported. Other foreign mercenaries who died in the battles have been identified as Perron and Pozolon.

The Sandinist newspaper BARRICADA reported today that at the captured camp the contras were holding young peasants whom they forced to undergo severe training. Later these kidnapped peasants were organized in units and directed against civilian and economic objectives along the central Atlantic coast, the reports stated.

DEFENSE MINISTRY ON AMBUSH OF FDN FORCE

PA240355 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 24 May 85

[Communique issued by the Defense Ministry's Directorate of Public and Foreign Relations in Managua, 23 May]

[Text] As a result of an ambush on 18 May by a small Defense Ministry unit, the enemy sustained approximately 50 casualties, both dead and wounded, including 4 detachment leaders. In an action complementing the Sandinist People's Army military plans, and employing special tactics, the small unit surprised a counterrevolutionary task force consisting of over 200 men, in the (Filaguaro) sector, Blanco River Jurisdiction.

The four mercenary leaders killed during the clash were known by the following nicknames: Caminante, Lucero, Cain and [name indistinct]. These men, along with the other crushed units belonged to the self-styled Jorge Salazar Regional Command of the FDN [Nicaraguan Democratic Force]. The head of the ambushed task force is a former National guardsman who calls himself (Ondalope). Due to the enemy's overwhelming number we were not able to ascertain the casualty toll that the CIA mercenaries sustained. However, our forces were able to meet their objective which was to strike and dismantle the counterrevolutionary column. The ambushed task force had attacked and burned several peasant cooperatives in the Blanco River sector killing several cooperative members.

COOPERATION COMMISSION WITH MEXICO MEETING

PA261932 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1930 GMT 25 May 85

[Text] The members of the Mexican delegation who will participate in the next meeting of the Mexican-Nicaraguan mixed cooperation commission, to be initiated Monday in the Foreign Ministry, have begun to arrive in Managua.

The Mexican delegation is headed by Eduardo Pesqueira Olea, secretary for agriculture and water resources, and Ambassador Jorge Eduardo Navarrete, under secretary for economic affairs in the Mexican Foreign Secretariat.

The delegation also includes: Carlos Iraly Carvajal, Jesus Moncada de la Fuente, Patricia Sequeira Ramirez, Luis Saenz Arroyo, Jorge Perez Galicia, and Maria Cristina Hernandez Cermeno.

The Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry has reported that Commander Henry Ruiz, who will head the Nicaraguan delegation to the meeting, arrived in Nicaragua from Europe today.

Upon completing his tour of European countries, Commander Ruiz said that a DPRK-Nicaragua commission had been established to solve financial problems.

[Begin recording -- in progress] ...Commander Ortega regarding the tour through Europe. Later, when we completed our last stopover in the European socialist countries, we concluded an agreement with [words indistinct] since we had planned a mixed commision. This is the first official mixed commission, and our relations with the DPRK are normal.

We must say that a mixed commission is a normal and natural procedure to discuss economic, scientific, technological, and financial matters. These problems have been aggravated by the U.S. [word indistinct]. This mixed commission became an expression of DPRK solidarity, particularly its leader Kim Il-song, and the Korean people as a whole who have condemned the Reagan administration's embargo against Nicaragua. In addition to expressing this solidarity politically, they have helped solve financial problems in our country. I repeat, the meeting of a mixed DPRK-Nicaragua commission served to evaluate our relations as well as their solidarity with our country. [Words indistinct] Dionisio Marenco, Jose Angel Buitrago, Avelino Araujo, and Rey Sandoval. [end recording]

Mexican Official Comments

FL280033 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2225 Gmt 27 May 85

[Text] Managua, 27 May (NOTIMEX) -- Mexico today reiterated its determination to prevent Nicaragua's isolation from actions favoring development and expressed its intention to bolster international awareness of the hegemonic pressures that seriously endanger peace in Central America.

At the opening here of the first meeting of the Mexico-Nicaragua mixed cooperation commission, Eduardo Pesqueira Olea, Mexico's secretary of agriculture and hydraulic resources, added that this country renews its intention to cooperate with Nicaragua in the areas of trade, industry, and technology. He noted that hegemonic pressures recently led to the implementation of an embargo against Nicaragua's economy. This action, Pesqueira Olea added, is not in accordance with the dialogue and negotiatin that Mexico has always advocated in its foreign policy. According to the Mexican official, the trade embargo, which will affect Nicaragua's economic capacity, sets a precedent of grave significance for coexistence among the hemispheric nations. He also indicated that Nicaragua's reconstruction is particularly necessary now that external tensions, both military and economic, are being intensified in an alarming fashion.

Pesqueira Olea added that the purpose of this meeting is to design a program of specific and important actions intended to promote Nicaraguan development in harmony with Mexico's economic characteristics. In this manner, the idea of turnig Mexicao and Central America into areas of true cooperation in concord and peace will become feasible.

A first goal, he added, is to keep Nicaragua's productive forces from being hindered in their basic developmental requirements. The actions undertaken by Mexico must be combined with those of other countries and the regional associations, he went on. An essential purpose of this commission is to try to enable Nicaragua to finance a significant part of its payment commitments through the increase and diversification of its exports, the Mexican official explained. He indicated that, nonetheless, cooperation necessitates other instruments and it is essential to link businessmen from both countries in projects that increase their productive capacity and therefore, the export coefficient. The means, he continued, accepting risks and receiving the support of the respective governments and the regional economic institutions, among which he mentioned the Action Committee for the Economic and Social Development of Central America (Cadesca).

Concerning trade, he said that between 1979 and 1983 Mexico's exports to Nicaragua went from $3.6 million to $153 million, mostly due to the shipment of oil and its derivatives. Nicaragua's exports rose from $1.4 million in 1979 to $9 million in 1983. Trade declined last year due to the Nicaraguan Government's decision to diversify its sources of supply, which led to a decline in hydrocarbon sales.

Pesqueira Olea said that Mexico's agricultural and livestock sectors will be particularly interested in outlining specific operations in accordance with the characteristics of their respective markets in order to favor long-term programs. In the fishing and industrial areas, various opportunities have also been earmarked for increasing cooperation and exchanges.

According to Pesqueira Olea, the projects already under way, like those involving joint enterprises in the fields of food, forestry, hydroelectricity, the diversification of energy sources, and the supply of fishing boats, will be discussed with great interest.

For his part, Nicaragua's Foreign Cooperation Minister Henry Ruiz thanked Mexico for its unselfish participation in the form of financial aid and its effort and determination to preserve Nicaragua's traditional interest in the principles of self-determination, independence, and national sovereignty.

UNOMASUNO ON ENDING IMPORT OF MEXICAN OIL

PA250420 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 25 May 85

[Text] Mexico City -- The Nicaraguan Government's decision not to accept any more oil from Mexico is a sovereign decision, confirming the Sandinist Government's responsible attitude, which in view of its inability to pay its debt prefers not to continue affecting Mexico's interests, the newspaper UNOMASUNO said today.

Taking part in the argument that has arisen as a result of Managua's announcement that it is unable to pay its debt to Mexico, and that from now on it will receive oil from the USSR, the newspaper says that Nicaragua is not giving up Mexican oil for political reasons, but because of fairness to a friendly country. Nicaragua is simply admitting its inability to pay at this moment and therefore does not wish to continue the onerous situations proving harmful to a friend who never failed, and who at all times remained loyal to its principles during the most difficult moments, UNOMASUNO said.

SOVIET AMBASSADOR COMMENTS ON OIL SUPPLY

PA250414 Managua Radio Noticias in Spanish 1200 GMT 24 May 85

[Interview with German Shlyapnikov, Soviet ambassador to Nicaragua, by journalist Antonio Luna; date and place not given -- recorded]

[Text] [Shlyapnikov] [Words indistinct] in my view is better seen as a struggle between progressive forces and imperialist forces that are against (?real) progress in the world.

Specifically, our cooperation with Nicaragua consists of our support for the Nicaraguan people in their efforts to restore the country and to make economic, social, and progressive changes in the country. We support these people's fight against imperialist aggression; we support these people in their struggle to achieve sovereignty, independence, and dignity. All this means that we, the USSR, are seeking... [rephrases] East-West in Nicaragua. [as heard] Then, what could we say about solidarity, unselfish support, and friendship between the peoples of the USSR and Nicaragua? In my opinion, to speak in terms of... [rephrases] to actually view our cooperation with Nicaragua within the (?invented) context of the East-West struggle constitutes self-deception, to think in that way is to deceive others; it is a distortion of reality.

We do not pursue any political objective in Nicaragua; we do not pursue a specific military objective or anything like that; we do not pursue any specific objective or seek to profit from our cooperation with Nicaragua. We are supporting and helping the Nicaraguan people in their struggle against the apparatus, against imperialism and aggression; in their search for a new life. (?That is what we support).

[Luna] Mr Ambassador, when will the first oil tanker leave the USSR for Nicaragua?

[Shlyapnikov] Ships have been coming here since last year. Cooperation involving petroleum supplies is nothing new. Commander Daniel Ortega's visit to Moscow finalized the expansion of this kind of cooperation.

BARRICADA OUTLINES HISTORY OF RADIO MARTI

PA250050 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 22 May 85 p 5

[Text] The war of radio frequencies, which the United States has maintained against Cuba almost since the very day of the victory of the 26 July movement on 1 January 1959, has reached new heights. The inauguration of the U.S. radio station named after Jose Marti, the Cuban national hero, forebodes a dangerous phase in the relations between the two countries.

This radio station, conceived as a powerful instrument for ideological penetration to poison the minds of the Cuban masses, was born in the most backward U.S. circles. These circles prepared the Republican platform for the 1980 presidential elections in which Mr Ronald Reagan triumphed.

The famous "Santa Fe document," in which the plan to overthrow the Sandinist revolution is proposed, contains the formal idea to create a powerful radio station to take to Cubans the message of "democracy and liberty." After a silence of several months, in September of 1981 President Reagan himself announced the planned Radio Marti and said that its installation and operational expenses would be paid through the defense budget, although U.S. communications laws specify that the use of the defense budget for such a project would require U.S. congressional approval.

After the unexpected Reagan announcement, Commander Fidel Castro said, on the anniversary of the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution, CDR, Cuba would respond. This statement by the Cuban president caused unrest among U.S. radio stations, particularly hundreds that operate near the 50 kHz limit. These radio stations could not increase their transmitters' power to counter Cuban broadcasts.

In 1982 the U.S. Congress rejected a bill to create Radio Marti financed by the Defense Department. Later, through legal trickery the Reagan administration was authorized to begin its project with an initial investment of $14 million.

When the U.S. President announced the airing of Radio Marti, a Cuban delegation was in the United States discussing with its U.S. counterparts electromagnetic interference problems. Minutes after the Reagan announcement the Cuban radio men withdrew from the meeting and returned to Cuba.

In Cuba, those in charge of agitation and propaganda for the party discussed the proper response to the U.S. threat. From the beginning it was agreed that "they would set the tone. We will not attack first. We will not begin a radio war."

From the southern United States there are close to 300 radio stations that can be heard in Cuba. From Cuba, on the other hand, fewer than five radio stations have 100 kHz of power, and these are the ones that can be heard from U.S. territory.

U.S. radio stations, however, were concerned because sometimes Radio Havana, for instance, covered them with its broadcasts. Eighteen U.S. businessmen prepared to go to Cuba to discuss the problem with their Cuban counterparts. Their stances were of offended people who, in addition to an explanation, demanded that Cuban radio stations must never again be heard on the dials of some U.S. southern sectors. This was their purpose in coming to Havana, from where they left, on invitation by the government, for the splendid Varadero beach resort, which Cuban propaganda says is the world's most beautiful. The rooms occupied by the U.S. radio man in Varadero were fitted with single-wave portable radios, the normal wave for local radio stations.

But a surprise awaited them. The businessmen crossed themselves when they heard, during the afternoon and more intensely in the evening, that hundreds of U.S. radio stations penetrated Cuba. Their furious demands vanished. They themselves said that this was "intolerable." It is worthwhile to recall that these radio stations also cause some problems for Mexican and Canadian stations.

The announcement of the creation of Radio Marti finally discouraged any initiative by the U.S. radio people, who instead began to view this project with displeasure. The U.S. radio station representatives agreed to identify Radio Marti as an instrument of aggression in a specialists' meeting held in Costa Rica.

In Rio de Janeiro the Cuban delegation would not sign the minutes of an international conference on communications because the conference, under pressure by the Reagan administration, did not note in its proceedings the aggressive nature of Radio Marti.

The concern of the U.S. radio broadcasters reached the White House, where President Reagan offered them $14 million as compensation for losses they would sustain in a Cuban response. But there was no deal because the broadcasters said this amount would not cover even a small part of eventual losses.

Reagan also promised them he would cut off all Cuban broadcasts. For this the U.S. Government would have to cut the underwater cable linking Cuba to various countries which passes through New York. The United States would also have to interfere in the Inter-Sputnik satellite system and destroy the parabolic communications antennas that Cuba has on the beaches near Havana.

Finally, the United States would have to bomb Radio Havana installations and antennas, whose locations have been pinpointed on their spy planes' flight charts. All this would amount to unleashing not only an electromagnetic war, but one of another sort.

But Radio Marti did not go on the air then. Its inauguration was repeatedly announced, and delays always occurred. Late in 1983 U.S. Government officials said the delay was due to a careful search for "reliable" Cuban personnel for the station. It took them a long time to appoint a director. Finally they appointed a Cuban, living in the United States, naturally, named Milian who had participated in the meetings with Fidel to establish the procedure for visits to Cuba by those who left after the triumph of the revolution.

Because of these talks armed Cuban counterrevolutionaries [gusanos] attacked Milian by planting a bomb in his car. He lost both his legs. Milian would be replaced later. Humberto Medrano was appointed deputy director. During the Batista regime he became famous for his work as a reporter and editor. He left Cuba in 1959.

Once these appointments had been made the inauguration of Radio Marti was again announced for 1 January 1984, the 25th anniversary of the revolution. Four days later, during a surprise speech, Reagan "congratulated" the Cuban people for their victory over Batista but said that the revolution had been "betrayed," adding that Radio Marti would soon go on the air.

Then the initial broadcast was announced for 24 February, another historical date for Cubans. But they made a test transmission presenting interviews with political figures of 1958, unknown to most Cubans living today. The speakers included a bishop, known as Boza Masvidal, noted for his counterrevolutionary homilies in church. He even protected a contra who had tried to hijack a plane. He was also known to keep weapons in his church.

They concluded by announcing that Radio Marti would soon be on the air. They said it would be on the air by the end of the spring, but later said that the date would be 10 May. "To Reagan, Radio Marti has become an obsession of a decrepit old man," commented Cuban propagandists, including reporters of the better known media on the island, one of whom added: "We are anxious to see what happens. We are like a boxer ready to fight, while his opponent fails to show up."

The Cubans were prepared. As a reply to the test transmission from the United States, Cuba launched the "Voice of Cuba" in a test transmission projected to reach half of the United States. But excellent ionospheric conditions that day permitted the Cuban radio waves to reach Boston. "Visit Varadera, the most beautiful beach in the world;" and "Ron Havana Club, try the 8-year-old rum" were announcements heard on street corners and avenues and in districts, buildings, and cities of several U.S. states.

Millions of North Americans heard the strange frequency which spoke of a completely different Cuba that that they had heard of during the past 2 decades from the U.S. mass media.

The transmission was quite moderate, without any insult to Reagan's imperialist policy. Although not devoid of content, the transmission contained little political color. Nevertheless, it was basically a political transmission.

Hundreds of U.S. broadcasting stations were erased from the dial, and the Reagan administration was shaken by a scandal. The fears of radio station owners were justified. In addition, important sectors were interested in starting and maintaining commercial relations.

A radio station in Iowa was silenced, and this hit the Reagan office at the White House like a bomb. It was Radio WHO, a grain farmers' station in the central sector of the United States, with a 40,000-kilowatt capacity. The U.S. President had planned for the transmission of Radio Marti to originate from that radio station. The grain farmers feared that a Cuban response would interfere with their transmissions and prevent the radio from announcing weather reports. Such was the importance of WHO to these producers. When Mr Ronald Reagan was informed that radio WHO had been neutralized by the Cuban transmission, he recalled sadly that he had begun his career as a radio announcer at that station.

CENTRAL BANK LIFTS RESTRICTIONS ON FOREIGN CURRENCY

PA260045 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1930 GMT 24 May 85

[Text] The currency exchange houses can set their own prices on foreign currency. The Central Bank will not regulate currency. There will be complete freedom to buy and sell foreign currency. This was affirmed today by Horacio Arugello Carazo, legal adviser of the Central Bank's presidency.

[Begin Arguello recording] The currency exchange houses are authorized agencies by the Central Bank to buy and sell foreign currency. However, the regulation that there will be no buying and selling of foreign currency between private citizens remains in force. The buying and selling [words indistinct] designated agents. In this case the designated agent [passage indistinct] exchange house authorized for this purpose.

The exchange houses can operate throughout the land and will have a head office at a convenient location. This was a resolution made by the board of directors of the Central Bank, to authorize the exchange houses to buy and sell foreign currency on the basis of supply and demand. The exchange houses will buy and sell foreign currency according to the supply or demand for dollars. The Central Bank will not participate in any regulation of this situation. The Central Bank will not supply dollars for this trade. The exchange houses will operate with whatever foreign currency they can obtain through their own transactions. [end recording]

HONDURAN RECEIVES 20-YEAR PRISON SENTENCE

PA242342 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 24 May 85

[Text] The Anti-Somozist People's Tribunals have sentenced Honduran mercenary Santos Perdomo Paz to 20 years in prison. During interrogation, Perdomo Paz admitted to having participated in combat against the Sandinist People's Army. The 30-year-old Honduran mercenary and other members of the Nicaraguan Democratic Force committed criminal actions such as kidnapping and killing people along the Honduran border. Fifteen other contras were sentenced to 10 years in prison.

REPORTAGE CONTINUES ON U.S. RADIO MARTI

Ecumenical Council Declaration

PA251951 Havana International Service in English 2050 GMT 24 May 85

[Text] Cuban religious organizations have released a declaration supporting the government's position on Washington's anti-Cuban Radio station. The ecumenical council made up of 16 churches and 8 ecumenical movements says the government measures represent Cuba's patriotic feelings. Meanwhile, the student Christian movement has criticized the launching of the station and demanded a new international economic order and the cancellation of the Third World foreign debt.

U.S., L. American Intellectuals

PA252320 Havana International Service in English 2050 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] A group of Cuban artists and intellectuals have signed a statement protesting Washington's Radio Marti. Culture Minister Armando Hart, national poet Nicolas Guillen, and prima ballerina Alicia Alonso, were among those who put their names to Havana's statement urging artists, intellectuals, and scientific and cultural institutions in the United States to study and promote the works of Marti, to show everyone the ignorance of the U.S. Government in naming their anti-Cuban broadcast after him. Cuban poet (Nancy Morejon), currently visiting the United States, [words indistinct]:

[Begin (Morejon) recording] [Words indistinct] actions of this American Government, of this administration against Cubans and against freedom, and against this so-called democracy they talk about. As a Cuban, my dignity is hurt. [end recording]

Many sectors in the United States are also against the anti-Cuban broadcasts (Jerret Christman), editor of the (BLACK SCHOLAR) said:

[Begin (Christman) recording] [Words indistinct] dangerous and meddlesome escalation of tensions between the two countries. Many of us in the United States were pleased that the Cuban and U.S. Governments had come to some proper agreement on the question of immigrants and the return of undesirables and it looked like there was some thaw occurring, but this is the most open and naked sign of jingoism that you can imagine. It is the same type of vicious, aggressive, hostility as is demonstrated in the embargo that has been placed on Nicaragua. [end recording]

Many Cuban-Americans are also opposed. (Maria de Gaston), of the Antonio Maceo Brigade, expressed disappointment at the Reagan administration's move:

[Begin (De Gaston) recording] It is surprising that it started since we had evidence that the Reagan administration had some disposition toward dialogue and possible negotiation of different points in the relations between Cuba and the United States. From this we realize that it is consistent with his belligerent policies toward the rest of Latin America. [end recording]

Even the Latin Americans continue to speak out against the new U.S. provocation against Cuba. The powerful Bolivian Worker's Federation says the broadcast is trying to create conditions for aggression. The Costa Rican Worker's Confederation says that this station's purpose is subversive and reflects the Reagan administration's aggression. The main leaders of Bolivia's Press Union say Radio Marti's goal is to manipulate the Cuban people by presenting itself as a symbol of democracy and freedom.

In Buenos Aires, Argentine novelist (Fontanarrosa) says that the move is a new active aggression against Cuba. In Lima, the leader of Peru's American Revolutionary People's Alliance, Carlos Roca, also condemned the broadcast.

Researcher Comments

PA270917 Havana International Service in English 0330 GMT 27 May 85

["From Cuban Profiles" program]

[Text] The United States has just launched a new act of aggression against Cuba. It has once again turned to the air waves to slander the revolution and to try to turn the people against its government. We think it reflects a pretty arrogant attitude and also a pretty unrealistic one. (Carmen Gonzalez), a researcher at the Havana Center for African and Middle Eastern Studies, told us:

[Begin recording] [(Gonzalez)] [Words indistinct] our people and our government and they are trying to [words indistinct] the Third World. It is quite terrible that one day after we commemorated the death of our national hero this anti-Cuban radio broadcasting station went to the air, but I think that on the other hand that it is quite adequate for them, in their own perspectives, because that is the day the domination of our [word indistinct] period began. So I think that for them it is adequate but for us [words indistinct].

[Reporter] How do you feel about their using the name of our national hero to name their station?

[(Gonzalez)] I think that it is a name that is very respected by everybody who has read Cuban authors, Cuban political authors, sociological authors, historians, journalists, [words indistinct] all of which Jose Marti was and a very good one at that. His name is widely known and we think that they have tried to get for them some of the prestige Marti's name encompasses.

[Reporter] The Reagan administration says that the purpose of their broadcast is to inform the people of the truth about their own country and the world. Do you feel that we have had some difficulty after listening to their own country and the world in general?

[(Gonzalez)] No, I don't feel that. On the contrary, we get very clear and good emissions of North American radio stations and of stations around the world just by turning on the dial in the [word indistinct]. But what's more, and I think this is something very serious, peculiar. The people who have some relatives away from the country, and I speak of those so-called Cubans who are working at that radio station, have been away from the country for so many years and some who are not Cubans and have never been to our country now say that they are going to tell the truth about us. Sometimes, speaking with the friends of other countries, even North Americans, we have found that news that is given about Cuba and certain situations, or some [word indistinct] happenings of the past is distorted in the international press or [word indistinct]. So, if they have [words indistinct] what truth are they speaking about? [end recording]

University Representative

PA270752 Havana International Service in English 0100 GMT 27 May 85

[Statement by (Domingo Amachastegui) of the University of Havana; date and place not given -- recorded]

[Text] This question of this anti-Cuban radio station has two angles, to which I would like to refer. First is the radio station as such. I think it is a very special aggressive move on the side of the Reagan administration, but it is not an isolated move. I think that very recently they have increased their aggressive movements, not only concerning Cuba, but the whole area as a whole, specially Nicaragua and El Salvador.

This action, a move against Cuba, is a part of this policy which is a very serious danger to peace, to Contadora's efforts in the whole region, and to the latest developments in Cuban-American contacts concerning the prisoners, concerning immigration movements, and so on.

The second angle to which I would like to refer is the name of this radio station: Jose Marti. Don Jose Marti is our national hero in the first place; our national hero, not their national hero. The whole work of Jose Marti is critical of American society, of Americans' political way of being in so many ways that it's hard to understand how they are going to use, how they are going to justify using Marti's name. In the words of Jose Marti you will find an amount of critics and revelations concerning the internal nature of American society, and American politics, and especially American expansionist aims concerning Latin America that it is practically impossible to understand how they are going to use his name and his work in this radio station and this campaign against the Cuban revolution, because in fact Jose Marti is a permanent banner against American imperialism, against the internal nature of that society in many ways.

There is another question concerning this new aggressive act. The American policy toward our country is not new at all. In fact, it is in the very foundation of the imperialist expansionist politics of that country. We must remember that our independence, our true independence, was frustrated completely due to American intervention. Thanks to American intervention, the most negative, corrupt, and negative [as heard] elements coming from the Cuban society were imposed as our future government during the coming independence in 1902. We must remember that it was thanks to this neocolonial scheme imposed by American imperialism that we had to suffer for more than 52 years an incredible degree of exploitation, humiliation, and all along, special filiations in the cultural, ideological, and political field in our national life coming permanently from the United States. The true fact is that American foreign policy concerning Cuba has been all along humiliating, exploitive, and anti-Cuban. Ever since they came to our country as allies, and still what they did truly was to steal away our independence and impose neocolonial rule up to the victory of the Cuban revolution.

This radio station uses a musical theme which is this song that ways that Marti no debio de morir [preceding phrase in Spanish], Marti shouldn't have died. I would like to recall that this song was especially made during the neocolonial republic precisely to criticize, to denounce, to attack what was left to us thanks to American intervention, and nothing else.

There is another question that I would like to raise concerning this more aggressive move by Reagan's administration. Our government, our party, they have made a public statement announcing five points against this aggressive move. These five points are not in any way an aggressive move against the United States, against Cuban-American relations, against the American people, or anything like it. They are a response to an aggressive move, unjustified, irrational, outdated, against peace developments in the whole area, and it is entirely founded on our sovereign right to give a solid and energetic response to such an aggressive move.

There is a last question I would like to underline. The establishment of this radio station has received and is receiving throughout the world, I would say a unanimously negative response from all sections of people -- I am not referring to communist, revolutionary people -- all kinds of people from all sorts of ideologies, political parties, governments, because nobody can understand, or share, or tolerate that in the middle of a peace process, such as Contadora, in the middle of a peace process, such aggressive move, such aggressive actions are taken without any kind of justification of any sort.

Cuban Economists Group

FL241150 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2130 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] Joining in the Cuban people's unanimous clamor, the National Association of Cuban Economists [ANEC] has condemned the Yankee government's provocative and ignominious decision to make anti-Cuban propaganda. Analyzing the U.S. regime's actions, the ANEC message says they were really caused by Fidel's unmasking of the origin of the Latin American countries' foreign debt and the support that his ideas have found everywhere.

L. American Journalists Declaration

PA271321 Havana International Service in Spanish 1228 GMT 27 May 85

[Text] The beginning of subversive radio broadcasts against Cuba by the U.S. Government constitutes a cynical provocation and is another example of the lack of scruples and the ignorance of the U.S. President and the group of fanatics that support him.

This was expressed in a statement issued in Havana by the organizing commission of the fourth congress of Latin American journalists on the occasion of the airing of the ill-named Radio Marti station. The document states that the Reagan radio, which is what the so-called radio station should have been named, underestimates the Cuban people, considering them an easy target of programs similar to those broadcast long ago by radio stations at the service of the dictator at that time, who was indignantly subjected to the interests of U.S. imperialism. The declaration condemns this aggressive and domineering brainchild of the U.S. Government and states that it will only serve to strengthen the solidarity of the journalists of Latin America and the Caribbean with the Cuban revolution.

Ambassador to UN

FL251314 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 25 May 85

[Text] Cuba has denounced to the UN Economic and Social Council Washington's interference in its internal affairs by setting up an anti-Cuban radio station. The complaint was registered by Cuban Ambassador to the UN Oscar Oramas Oliva in a speech to the organization on the subject of human rights. The Cuban diplomat said the U.S. measure demonstrates the imperialist arrogance of those who cynically deride the people's desires for peace and who cannot conceive of any order other than dictatorship. Oramas Oliva referred to the violation of human rights of the peoples of Namibia and South Africa under the apartheid regime. He also stated that the persistent violation of human rights in Chile by Augusto Pinochet's regime is outrageous.

Comments of Bulgarian Envoy

PA240406 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] Bulgarian Ambassador to Cuba Petor Ivanov Marinkov has stated here in Havana that there is no evidence implicating Bulgarian citizens Sergei Antonov, Todor Aivazov, and Zhelyo Vasilive in the attack against Pope John Paul II. The ambassador said that the charges against those Bulgarian citizens is a clumsy act of provocation aimed at tarnishing Bulgaria's international standing as well as that of the socialist community in general.

Marinkov added that the facts show that the U.S. Government is particularly interested in misrepresenting Bulgaria's and Cuba's public image. Those intentions are apparent in the so-called Antonov case, and in the start of subversive and anti-Cuban Radio Marti's broadcasting.

Dominican Friendship Committee

PA241928 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 23 May 85

[Report by correspondent Orlando Contreras from Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, date not given -- live or recorded]

[Text] I can inform you that the Dominican Committee of Friendship with Cuba has just issued a press statement strongly censoring the initiation of the transmissions of the so-called Radio Jose Marti.

According to the committee's statement, this radio station is an insult to the memory of a distinguished patriot who, at the end of the past century, warned the peoples of our America of the danger that U.S. imperialism posed for them. The document added that the character of these radio transmissions is contained in secret documents prepared by the Santa Fe Committee, a group made up of large multinationals that advised Reagan during his electoral campaign prior to his first presidential term, from where the idea to create the so-called Radio Jose Marti emerged. The committed added that the document recommended the use of every possible means against Cuba, particularly psychological war, and stressed that the first steps should be frankly punitive.

I can add that private radio stations here in Santo Domingo have also expressed their opposition to these transmissions. Some have stated that the counterrevolutionary station's signal is affecting their own transmissions. One of these stations is Radio Mil, one of the most popular radio stations here in Santo Domingo.

Mexican Journalist

FL271512 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1416 GMT 27 May 85

[Text] President of the Democratic Mexican Journalists Union Elia Chavez called the airing of the anti-Cuban station a manifestation of the Reagan administration's state terrorism.

Costa Rican TANA Chapter

PA240359 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] Arnoldo Mora, president of Costa Rica's chapter of the Anti-Imperialist Tribunal of Our America has said that Cuba vindicates the dignity of all Latin American peoples when it vindicates its own dignity as a free and independent nation. Mora was commenting on the statement issued by the Cuban Government at the start of subversive station Radio Marti's transmissions.

In an interview with this radio station, Arnoldo Mora stated that actions such as this one show that the U.S. Government has little respect for international public opinion and for the people's right to self-determination. He said that since the fascist era no other government has trampled so often on these rights, as has the Ronald Reagan government. As for the use of the name Jose Marti, Mora stated that it constitutes an insult to the Cuban people and to all progressive and honest men in Latin America who view Cuba's national hero as one of the leaders who most vigorously condemned imperialism.